

Troops move in as Bill on jail crisis is announced

An emergency Bill is to be introduced in Parliament today to deal with the prison crisis. It will allow the temporary release of some prisoners and early release for others; remand prisoners will not have to appear regularly before the courts. As the measures were announced troops moved into a high security jail.

Early release for some prisoners

Mr. Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, said that the Bill would allow the temporary release of some prisoners and early release for others. The Ministry of Defence said that soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders, together with some administrative and support staff, would be used at the high security jail, near Durham, which is also considering using its own staff. The Bill would allow the temporary release of some prisoners and early release for others. The Ministry of Defence said that soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders, together with some administrative and support staff, would be used at the high security jail, near Durham, which is also considering using its own staff. The Bill would allow the temporary release of some prisoners and early release for others. The Ministry of Defence said that soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders, together with some administrative and support staff, would be used at the high security jail, near Durham, which is also considering using its own staff.



The first troops moving into Frankland prison, near Durham, yesterday.

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Miners tell their MPs to support Mr Foot

By Our Labour Editor
Yorkshire miners' leaders yesterday issued an indirect threat to pit-constituency MPs that they could lose their seats unless they supported Mr. Michael Foot in the battle for the leadership of the Labour Party.

The area council of the National Union of Mineworkers voted to withdraw support from sponsored MPs who acted against the wishes of pro-Foot local party caucuses. In a fresh extension of the union's influence in Yorkshire Labour Party affairs, the 77-strong council called on the five Labour MPs in the coalfield to back the deputy leader as successor to Mr. James Callaghan.

The day NUM body meeting in Barnsley, under the chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Scargill, the area's left-wing president, instructed miners' delegates to party general management committees in Yorkshire to call special meetings to win support for Mr. Foot in this very important election.

The successful motion from Park Hill Colliery, Wakefield, concluded: "This area council makes it clear that any mining MP who acts contrary to the general management committee's wishes cannot expect the support of the union in any re-election process."

Despite the contraction of the mining industry, there are still five NUM-sponsored MPs in Yorkshire: Mr. Albert Roberts (Normanton); Mr. Roy Mason (Barnsley); Mr. Alec Woodall (Hemsworth); Mr. Edward Wainwright (Dearne Valley); and Mr. Michael Welsh (Don Valley). Of these, the first two are Labour MPs, while the other three are Conservative. Mr. Healey when Labour MPs choose their new leader on November 4. All five attended the opening stages of the area council yesterday, but only Mr. Welsh stayed on to hear the political debate. He indicated his intention to vote for Mr. Foot.

Civil Service threat of action over pay findings freeze

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor
Industrial action in the Civil Service seems almost certain after a Government announcement last night that pay comparability for 550,000 white-collar employees is to be abandoned for the 1981 wage round.

Angry union leaders boycotted the meeting with Lord Soames, Minister for the Civil Service, on learning they were to be told that Pay Research Unit findings pointing to salary rises of 12 to 20 per cent would be set aside. Salary comparison reports due to be delivered to the Civil Service unions by November 15 will not now be handed over, and the unions are taking legal advice as to whether the Cabinet's decision is in breach of the law.

Ministers are determined to keep Civil Service pay rises due from April 1 next down to single figures under government-imposed cash limits of around 7 to 8 per cent, due to be published in the middle of next month. Mr. Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the Society of Civil Servants, said: "This move will make industrial action by my members far more likely."

The Government's cynical attempt to suppress the facts about how far Civil Service pay has fallen behind simply confirms that the Government knows that this evidence will show that pay increases of nearly 20 per cent are needed. Our members know it too, and we will not accept the imposition of an arbitrary cash limit figure. Our plans for industrial action are already well advanced."

Continued on page 2, col 3

Mr Rippon wants big cut in lending rates

By Our Political Editor
Indicating the concern growing among Conservative MPs over the Government's economic policy, a former Tory Minister yesterday fired a shot across the Cabinet's bows with a renewed call for an immediate and big cut in lending rates.

In a letter to *The Times*, Mr. Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP for Hexham, insists that "the balance of budgetary fiscal and monetary policies has been effectively under the excessive reliance on 'dubious' monetary targets. He says the country cannot afford to wait even a further week for the next monthly money supply figures. Too many companies have gone to the wall and a significant reduction in interest rates is required immediately if we are not to sink into further unnecessary recession."

Mr. Rippon has been critical of the stubborn pursuit of Mrs. Thatcher's policy for over a year now. But he has used the first day of the Commons return to ram home the distress call from industry that was muffled at the annual party conference. And his message that the Government is increasing the planned cuts in public expenditure next year is also causing distress in some of the Tory ranks.

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Even begin inger rike at e Maze

Christopher Thomas
The seven Republican leaders who began a hunger strike at the Maze prison, near Belfast, yesterday were convicted of terrorism. The Government's aim is to push the Bill through the Commons and the House of Lords by tomorrow night.

At night rush hour traffic jams in London and other cities because of the hunger strike. Another 142 cars at the Maze said they join the "dinner protest" to the total of 495. The names of the seven were given by the Republican press in the Falls Road, west Belfast. The number of seven has been selected because seven men signed the Irish Proclamation of Independence in 1916.

Other statement by the seven yesterday said they were in support of the hunger strike. They said they were not seeking to end the strike by any means and would continue to use every other means and way in us, we see no way of ending this strike.

Orange Order declared that people of Ulster were tired of hearing about the imposed misery of the protestants. A non-sectarian Alliance to talks earlier in the day. Mr. Thompson, Attorney General for Northern Ireland, received an assurance that there was no prospect of over-riding reintroducing category status. John Cusack, the general secretary, said that the Alliance was determined to introduce civilian control in all prisons in Ireland. He does not appear to see the people of Ireland as having been used for political beliefs. He said that the Alliance was determined to introduce civilian control in all prisons in Ireland. He does not appear to see the people of Ireland as having been used for political beliefs.

Dr Kaunda claims to have foiled Zambia coup

Lusaka, Oct. 27—President Kaunda said today that he had thwarted a planned coup by local dissidents and foreign mercenaries and linked the plot to an alleged threat by South Africa to shell Zambian territory. He said only three members of the Zambian security forces had so far been implicated in the plot but declined to identify them. No government leader has been named in the plot, the President added. He called a news conference to explain his reasons for introducing an indefinite, dusk-to-dawn curfew on most of Zambia's important towns and cities last Thursday on the eve of independence day celebrations.

President Kaunda said security forces struck a few hours before the coup was to have been launched on October 16. The forces clashed with more than 50 heavily-armed men camped on a farm just south of Lusaka, killed two of them and captured two others. Dr Kaunda said more than 40 of the gang had been caught. The President described the gang as mercenaries and other revolutionaries. He also accused South Africa of having made attempts as far back as 1966 to destabilize Zambia.

In its latest effort, he said, South African troops last month demanded a meeting with Zambian forces at the border with the Caprivi strip in Namibia. South Africa eventually issued an ultimatum that Zambia must agree to a meeting by October 10 or face the prospect of Shesheke being shelled, the President said. Security operation: The President's statement marks the climax of the country's biggest internal security operation since independence 16 years ago. (Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg.) During the past few days at least 12 prominent Zambians and three Army officers have been detained by the police. Scores of people have been arrested for breaking the dusk-to-dawn curfew.

Plessey awarded £150m contract

Plessey, one of Britain's largest electronics groups, has been awarded a contract for defence communications systems, initially worth £150m. However, Plessey estimates the total value of the contract could be as much as £300m over the next few years. The order is for a new tactical communications network for the British Army and the Royal Air Force in Germany and is claimed to be the largest single defence contract awarded in the UK.



Arafat injury: Mr. Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, addressed the UN conference in Belgrade. He arrived wearing a surgical collar. PLO sources said he was suffering from a slipped disc.

Polish union backs down

The leaders of Poland's free trade union movement withdrew their ultimatum to the Prime Minister for a meeting with him in 24 hours. Instead, a meeting has tentatively been arranged for Thursday, but strike action is not ruled out.

Tekere role not disputed

The lawyer of Mr. Edgar Tekere, the Zimbabwe Minister, said his client did not dispute facts behind charges of murder, but said that he should be discharged because the court had no jurisdiction. Archer death: Equity force BBC to scrap some recordings because non-actors took part. Luxembourg: Agreement on uniform EEC alcohol tax delayed. Moscow: Officials fail to catch party mood in Russia.

Hostages talks adjourned

The Iranian Parliament has adjourned the debate on terms for releasing the American hostages until tomorrow. Today is a Muslim holiday. MPs said there was still no agreement on the conditions for their release.

Football's cards may go

Football's red and yellow cards—used for sending off and cautioning players respectively—should be abolished, 92 club chairmen decided at Solihull.

BL submits £400m aid plea to Government as vote on strike looms

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor
Requests for further substantial Government financial aid were submitted to Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, by BL yesterday as shop stewards organized mass meetings later this week to vote on recommendations for strike action over the company's 6.8 per cent "final offer" to its 73,000 manual workers.

Additional cash being sought by BL, likely to be more than £400m, forms a key element of the company's corporate plan which was formally submitted to the Industry Department yesterday and to the National Enterprise Board. Ministers, embroiled in arguments over public spending cuts, face difficulties against the background of the deepening recession which has infected BL, although Sir Michael Edwards, the BL chairman, will point to the additional cash already extended to British Steel and the expectation of further aid for British Shipbuilders.

But the BL chairman is under no illusion that the Government will take a tough line if strike action, which would disrupt the recently launched Mini Metro, came after the mass meetings. Earlier this month he admitted that the Government would be entitled to withhold funds if the company failed to maintain public industrial relations or failed with the Mini Metro. BL, which lost £155m in the first six months of the current financial year, has received £25m more than the £1,000m originally allocated under the rescue plan drawn up in 1975 by the NEB. At the end of last year the Government approved funding totalling £430m, with about £30m of that sum earmarked for the company's needs next year. BL needs the extra cash not only for its business plan next year, but also more importantly for the LC10 middle-range model, regarded as being of even greater significance to BL's future than the Mini production in 1982-83. Against the background of the industry's difficulties and the growing pressures on the Government to ease the cash limits of other nationalized industries, ministers may urge the company to explore the possibility of raising at least some of the extra finance from private sources.

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Financial Times or to quit

Reed Fisher is to give up his directorship of the Financial Times, the newspaper said. He will be replaced by Mr. Geoffrey Owen, 58, who has been since 1973, will be a director of the company, Pearson-Long. He will also become a director of S. G. Warburg and merchant bank.

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HOME NEWS

Emergency powers Bill on prisons has initial limit of three months

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

Emergency powers including detention, release and the suspension of remand court appearances, proposed for the Home Secretary under the Imprisonment (Temporary Provisions) Bill will, unless renewed, lapse after three months, according to the terms of the Bill published last night.

A permanent provision which will survive the prison officers' dispute would confirm the legality of the police holding prisoners in custody until such time as they can be sentenced to prison or produced in court. The Government intends the Bill to complete all Commons stages today.

The most notable feature of the Bill is to grant extensive power to the Executive over convicted prisoners. Thus, "any place in England or Wales" could be approved as a place of lawful detention; equally "any person" duly appointed, as an individual or a team, to have custody of prisoners would "have all the powers, authority protection and privileges of a constable".

Prisoners on remand would not in future be brought automatically before a magistrate's court at the end of the remand period; that procedure would be suspended, unless the court required it, and the court, in the prisoner's absence could remand him further on bail or in custody.

The Secretary of State would be able to direct the conditional release of two categories of prisoners to ease overcrowding. The first category includes prisoners who have not yet begun serving sentences and grants a type of "executive bail". Such prisoners would be required eventually to surrender themselves again, and, upon default, to be subject to rearrest without warrant.

The second category includes prisoners serving sentences, except those serving life terms, who could expect to be released up to six months early.

In addition magistrates' courts, where notified by the Home Secretary, would cease imprisoning persons who failed to "pay any sum of money" or for want of sufficient distress to satisfy any sum of money. That would apply to non-payment of rates, fines maintenance orders and the like, according to the Home Office. New court welcome to come of the emergency measures came from penal reform groups yesterday (Frances Gibb writes). The Howard League for Penal Reform welcomed the Home Secretary's decision to restrict the powers of magistrates to imprison persons for non-payment of rates, fines maintenance orders and similar offences and that to release prisoners nearing the end of their sentences.

Benn supporters seek alternative economic policy

By Michael Hatfield

Political Reporter

The Labour Co-ordinating Committee which supports Mr Wedgwood Benn, yesterday issued a pamphlet arguing that the party "must offer a clear alternative way of running the economy".

The strategy was needed to end the waste of unemployment, halt the decline of industry and raise living standards. It was a time when "the next leader of the Labour Party should follow".

The committee repeated its demand for increased public spending, industrial democracy, compulsory planning agreements, increased public ownership, import controls and price control.

Each element of the strategy depended on the other, the pamphlet states. A boost to the economy through public expenditure would achieve little without trade controls and industrial intervention.

It states: "Regeneration of industry, and particularly the development of workers' plans and cooperatives, will be restricted unless they take place in a healthy economy. The whole strategy could founder unless working people are committed to its objectives and are involved in its implementation."

There is an Alternative (Labour Co-ordinating Committee, 40p).

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Mr Andrew Erlam, assistant

director of the league, said: "It seems very sad, however, that it takes a crisis like this to reveal what prison conditions are like. There has been prison overcrowding for years, and we have long been pressing for measures of this kind, but only as a result of the dispute has it been brought to the public attention."

Mr Paul Cavadino, an officer of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, similarly welcomed the measures involving the release of some prisoners and the removal of custodial sentences for some offences.

It is regrettable that it has taken a state of emergency to make the Government do something to reform prison conditions, something they should have done long ago.

Mr Geoffrey Cogan, secretary of the Prisoners' (Prop) said some of the steps the Home Secretary was taking, such as keeping prisoners in custody, would have been taken anyway without the prison officers forcing his hand (Craig Seton writes).

Mr Cogan said it was part of a trial of strength with the prison officers over an issue which would seem to be petty indeed. The Home Office was scared that the prison officers were starting to act like trade unionists and Prop found itself on the side of the prison officers.

The Home Office had a right to go to arbitration.

The Home Office had a contingency plan involving the Army and wanted to see how it would work.

Mr Geoffrey Norman, secretary of the Magistrates' Association, said magistrates would regret it had proved necessary for Mr Whitelaw to take those drastic steps.

The provisions in the Bill meant that some prisoners would not be produced in court. In the initial stages, it would cause much inconvenience to witnesses and other arrangements were made.

He added that restrictions on the powers of courts to imprison people for non-payment of rates, fines and maintenance orders would be of considerable concern to magistrates.

"That power is a necessary power because it underpins the whole system. The hard core of offenders who refuse to pay a fine unless threatened with imprisonment will get away with it and it will bring the system into disrepute."

Mr Norman said magistrates would realize the seriousness of the situation and would do their utmost to make the new arrangements work. He also accepted it was necessary, temporarily, to clear space so that dangerous offenders could be properly contained.

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The Maze hunger strikers (from left): Thomas McFeely, from Dungiven, co Londonderry; Thomas McKearney, Moy, co Tyrone; Brendan Hughes, Belfast; Leo Green, Lurgan, co Armagh; Raymond McCartney, Londonderry; Sean McKenna, Newry, co Down; and John Nixon, Antrim.

The hunger strikers are named

By Michael Horsnell

The use of a House of Commons committee room for a meeting, packed with sympathisers of the provisional IRA prisoners on hunger strike led to angry demands from MPs last night for an inquiry.

The meeting was organized by Charles 80, a left-wing group, to protest against the IRA prisoners' hunger strike. It was chaired by Mr Ernest Roberts, Labour MP for Hackney, North and Stoke Newington, who booked committee room W2 for a one-hour press conference.

It was held as a group of IRA prisoners started a hunger strike at the Maze Prison, near Belfast. Relatives of two of the prisoners, speaking from Northern Ireland, for the meeting, supported their action.

Neither the police nor the checked by security staff. Lost night Mr. Carlisle, Conservative MP for Luton West, called on Mr Norman St John Stevas, Leader of the House, to set up an inquiry.

Mr Roberts said: "An MP has a right to book a room and to see people he wishes to see in the course of his political activities. This is a basic human right."

Mr Roberts supported the demands of the prisoners to the right to wear their own clothes, the right to obtain books, work, the right to free communication with other prisoners, the right to organize their own education, and to receive one visit, one letter, and one parcel a week, and the right to full remission of sentences.

Relatives at the meeting included Mrs Maura McKearney, aged 55, the mother of Thomas McKearney, aged 28, from Moy, co Tyrone, who is serving 25 years for being an accessory to murder.

She said: "I am proud he has the guts to die for his people if he was to do so. He was a well-educated young man who would probably be walking through the streets today with a briefcase if it were not for the fact that someone who has no right in one's life should move him to where he is today."

Further talks today on Cunard liners dispute

By David Felton

Talks to end the dispute between the National Union of Seamen and Cunard broke up last night after four hours with no agreement reached on the company's plans to transfer cruise liners to foreign registrations, but further talks are to be held today.

Both sides said some progress had been made and they were hopeful that a settlement could be reached. The dispute could lead to a one-day strike next month.

Mr James Slater, general secretary of the union, said: "There is no way that we can agree to any ship changing to a flag of convenience, which is nothing more than a maritime mafia."

Despite that statement, the Cunard Princess, one of the two

liners at the centre of the dispute, has sailed from Puerto Rico on a Caribbean cruise flying the Bahamian flag and with a foreign crew, after the dispute of British ratings.

About 100 members of the 17,500-ton Cunard Countess, which is trapped in Barbados. Lord Matthews, chairman of Cunard, has threatened to sell the ship to a foreign flag, failing a quick settlement of the dispute.

He said: "I am a little more encouraged that we are going to get an agreement, but it has not happened yet by a long way."

Cunard's flagship, the Queen Elizabeth 2, is on a Caribbean cruise and will not be affected by the union's call for action until the docks in Britain on November 8.

Redundancy cash spent on drink, report says

Some redundant workers, instead of investing their redundancy money, were spending it on drink, it is claimed in a report published today.

Mr William Kenyon, who runs a centre for alcoholics in Liverpool, said in his annual report that consumption of alcohol in Britain had increased by more than 50 per cent between 1969 and 1979.

Mr Kenyon, executive director of the Merseyside, Lancashire and Cheshire Council on Alcoholism, said that in general the recession should have eased the problem, because people would have less to spend.

But redundant workers were vulnerable because of the frustration, resentment, anger and hopelessness of unemployment. The trend continued, alcoholism would account for nearly a quarter of all mental hospital patients by 1985.

A manager who lost his job with an engineering company in 1979, said he had been drinking 200,000 redundancy money on drink. He was stopped only when his wife persuaded him to visit the centre.

MPs protest about Commons meeting

By Michael Horsnell

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Civil Service award suspended

Continued from page 1

Government during the years of the civil service award with the TUC.

Mr Kendall said the announcement was "the final straw". He went on: "The Government has now formally declared war on its own employees."

The Pay Research Unit did not produce recommendations on pay, but only facts. "Clearly, the Government has decided that because it might lose out on the facts they should be suppressed."

"The facts will presumably create embarrassment for the Government because they will indicate that their strategy like their economic policy is a complete failure."

It is afraid to allow its employees and of more importance—the public and Parliament—to see the facts.

Civil servants would react in the same way as other employees and would now be planning how to channel their reaction in the most effective way.

"We will organize for the inevitable industrial disruptions during the early part of next year."

In an unprecedented personal view, Mr Kendall concluded: "Civil Service pay is back in politics. I am a disenchanted moderate member of the Labour Party and I am desperately attempting to cooperate with the Government."

"This has failed."

"We will go back into politics because we have no alternative. I shall campaign for the defeat of this stupid administration."

Man is charged with PC's death

Mr Josan Soan, aged 23, a

H-block campaigners 'murdered by SAS'

By Michael Horsnell

Special Air Service soldiers had recently been called to the Maze Prison to guard the most active members of the National H-block Campaigners, according to Mr. McKearney, the first prisoner at the Maze prison to refuse to wear prison clothes as part of a campaign to be granted political status.

Mr Nugent arrived in Paris on Sunday to lead a publicity campaign in Europe aimed at winning support for the Seven Maze prisoners who have just started a hunger strike to force the British Government to accord them political prisoner status.

Mr Nugent said that he had been held for an hour by police and customs at Orly airport. Miss Maureen Gibson, a former prisoner at Armagh, who arrived with him, said she had been held for 10 hours in Dublin on Saturday.

Mr Nugent said: "We believe this is all part of a campaign to try to stop us. Two weeks ago a hooded SAS

squad had been discovered at a house in Twickenham, on the Andersonstown estate, by an army patrol. The patrol, he said, had been called to the house where the mother of an H-block prisoner lived.

That incident was similar to these, which had occurred recently in which active members of the committee had been killed. One had occurred two weeks ago when a group of hooded men had burst into a flat and killed Mr. Noel Lyle and Mr. Ronnie Bunting, and had seriously wounded Mrs. Bunting.

A second incident was the murder of Miss Miriam Daily, a member of the staff at Queen's University, who had been used up and shot, and the third was the shooting of Mr. John Tudeley, leader of the Independent Irish Party.

Apart from holding public meetings, Mr Nugent will try to form local action committees in Europe. One has been formed in France and is planning to hold a demonstration in the British Government to agree to the prisoners' demands.

Editor's mission

Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of The Times, left Heathrow airport by Concorde for New York yesterday on his way to see Lord Thomson of Fleet in Toronto. He indicated that hopes of saving the newspaper were high.

Teenagers' jewel raid

A gang of teenagers, including a girl posing as a job seeker, stole jewelry valued at £2,500 from a woman aged 47 at her office in Regent Street, London, yesterday.

War veteran is 103

Mr William Sheppard, a Boer war veteran, celebrated his one hundred and third birthday with a party at Southfield home for the elderly at Devizes, Wiltshire, yesterday.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FROM W. to E. Clouds are shown in tenths of sky. Wind speed in mph. Direction by arrow. Rain, snow, hail, sleet, fog, etc. are indicated by symbols.

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Jail uniform decision 'bowing to blackmail'

By Hugh Noyes

Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Michael Allison, Minister of State, Northern Ireland, failed to convince the Commons yesterday that the Government had not bowed to blackmail in allowing prisoners in Northern Ireland to substitute civilian clothing for their prison uniforms.

In vain did Mr Allison protest that the change had nothing to do with blackmail and that it arose from the Government's determination to be guided at all times by a "humane and enlightened approach."

He repeated the assurance that the hunger strike, started by prisoners at the Maze Prison, near Belfast, would not lead to concessions over their demands for political status. That issue would not be conceded on principle.

The Government was attacked for its decision on prisoners' clothing by friend and foe alike. Mr. Enoch Powell, Official Ulster-Unionist, Down, South, said the decision was a "change" made after reconsidering prison conditions was a pretence that would deceive no one. An attempt to buy off blackmail not only encouraged the blackmailers but destroyed the credibility of the Government.

From the Conservative benches, Mr. Ivor Stanbrook, said that if this was not the discreditable surrender to the provisional IRA that most people thought it was, why was not the Government's gesture aimed at the prisoners in the rest of the United Kingdom?

Everybody in Northern Ireland knew this was a shoddy deal to buy off the IRA threat of a hunger strike.

Fall-out shelter family miss home comforts

Mrs Phyllis Miller, of Farnborough, north London, looking forward to a good night's sleep, was disappointed to find her family's fall-out shelter, a small, dark, and uncomfortable space, was not what she expected.

The shelter, designed by a Swiss nuclear engineer, is said to give protection against the effects of a nuclear explosion. It is 1,600 yards away from the family's house, next to the swimming pool. It houses up to 12 people, and costs £13,750, including excavation and installation costs.

Three years' jail for betting shops raider

Fergus Adrian Pollard, aged

29, who robbed betting shops using a realistic imitation pistol to get out of debt, was jailed by the Central Criminal Court yesterday for three years.

The prosecution wanted two police officers to testify that Pollard was a "professional" bettor. Mr. Pollard, of not fixed address, robbed Mecca, Ltd., and William Hill betting shops in Kenilworth, Warwick, and in the West End between August, 1978, and last August. It was stated each time he used the imitation pistol to force terrified staff to hand over money. Mr. Pollard got in all £7,600.

Complaint over remand in police custody

The policeman accused of murdering Miss Patsy Malone, a lesbian prostitute, was being held in primitive conditions because of the prison officers' dispute, his solicitor maintained yesterday.

Peter Swindell was being held in a local police station in conditions that were inadequate. Mr. Stephen Dawson told magistrates at Redbridge, east London, "He has inadequate washing facilities, has a light on day and night and has only 10 minutes outside exercise during a 24-hour period."

Mr Swindell, aged 40, of Pentire Road, Walthamstow, east London, was remanded for a further week in custody.

Weather forecast and recordings

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HOME NEWS

BBC 'Panorama' team to make another programme about brain death and transplants

Annabel Ferriman and Kenneth Goshing, BBC television's *Panorama* team, are to make another programme on the subject of brain death and organ transplantation for the public outcry over a recent broadcast about the subject.

The *Panorama* of October 15, which suggested that surgeons in Britain might be taking organs from patients who were not yet dead and that the British criteria for determining brain death were inadequate, resulted in a deluge of letters, protests to *The Times*, the *British Medical Journal* and *Lancet*. It was suggested that many doctors that the programme was misleading, and would lead to some people tearing up donor cards.

A delegation of physicians and surgeons met Sir Ian Tretham, Director-General of the BBC, yesterday at Broadcasting House. They were told that a new programme was to be made.

The delegation, headed by Dr Smith, chairman of the Royal College of Physicians, said that the programme was misleading and that it had left the public confused and that it was damaging to the donor programme.

Members of the public had written in considerable numbers to the British Medical Association expressing their concern. The continuing debate in the press could not really

alleviate people's fears, the delegation said.

They wanted *Panorama* to return to the subject and to have the medical profession before them.

Dr Smith said the BBC considered that the reactions to the programme had confirmed that its content was a matter of legitimate public interest and it considered that *Panorama* had handled it responsibly.

It recognized, however, the concern of Lord Smith and his colleagues that some medical opinion felt the programme had damaged the confidence of the public in the medical profession. *Panorama* will return to it within the next few weeks.

Mr. Jenkins, Secretary of State for Social Services, last night condemned the BBC for the "original *Panorama* programme." (Hugh, Moyes, Our Parliamentary Correspondent writes.) Describing the programme as "shameful and irresponsible," Mr. Jenkins said that some potential donors were tearing up their donor cards and returning them.

"The awful thing, the terror that one has," Mr. Jenkins told the Commons, during a debate on the National Health Service, "is that patients, particularly those requiring renal transplants, may now go without an operation they need and may die because people have become frightened unnecessarily and irresponsibly by a programme put out on television."

The programme suggested that British surgeons might be removing organs from patients who had been certified as dead and who might otherwise have recovered.

Mr. Stanley Orme, Opposition spokesman on the social services, joined Mr. Jenkins in expressing concern about the programme which he said raised questions which needed answering. He suggested that the department should reply point by point to the issues that had been raised.

Answering Mr. Paul Dean, Conservative MP for Somerset, North, who said that the allegations about the BBC were disturbing and would have a bad effect on possible future donors unless they were disproved, Mr. Jenkins said that grave anxieties had been raised in the minds of the public. The medical profession was gravely concerned because it was felt that the programme got it entirely wrong.

He added that the most disturbing factor was that Professor Bryan Jennett, professor of neurosurgery at Glasgow University, who took part in the programme, did not see the evidence about the American cases until the programme had been broadcast.

Mr. Jenkins said that it was shameful that the BBC had failed to give the leaders of the medical profession, who had vigorously protested before the programme went out, any opportunity to comment.



Widespread flooding: A farm tractor ploughing through the streets of Ribchester, Lancashire, which was reported almost cut off yesterday when the River Ribble overflowed. Torrential rain yesterday caused three rivers in north Wales to burst their banks.

Flood water 4ft deep was reported at Dolgellau, Gwynedd, after the River Mawddach overflowed, along with the River Dovey at Machynlleth.

Most of the Conway valley was under water, particularly around the town of Llanrwst, Gwynedd. At Widnes, Cheshire, police and firemen sandbagged 20 homes when a brook overflowed.

Heavy rain forced the closure of a 10-mile section of the M6 between Broughton, near Preston, and Hampson Green, near Lancaster, because of accidents. Motorists were advised to stay at home. The police said: "They

may be able to get to their destination, but there is no guarantee they will be able to get back." The A536 and several main roads into West Yorkshire were also closed by the floods.

The Meteorological Office gave warning that more rain was expected today and that the strong winds sweeping southern England would continue.

Snag for tenants who want to buy

From Our Correspondent, Chesterfield

North-east Derbyshire district council said yesterday it was only good housekeeping to tell some tenants that they would have to relinquish their right to buy their homes for five years if they wanted them modernized at a cost of up to £5,000.

Two tenants have signed forms giving up their right; two hundred more living in former coal board homes will receive them at the weekend.

Mr. Clifford Fox, the council's Labour leader, said yesterday that modernization could cost £5,000 and if the home was sold, half that amount would be lost. "It protects the money we are spending. It is good housekeeping. We are here to protect public money. Many Labour councils have been criticized in the past over the way they have used public money. We see this as a legitimate way to protect funds."

Mr. Fox said the council had taken legal advice and it was sure it was doing nothing illegal. "People will not be under duress."

The council, which is running a campaign against council house sales, also intends to do only essential repairs to houses where the tenants have expressed a wish to buy.

Mr. Fox said that he hoped other councils would adopt the scheme. "But I am sure the government has been reading what the papers are saying. I am sure they will be contacting this authority to see what it is doing."

Council officials resign over policy on cuts

Christopher Warman, Government spokesman

Camden council, one of 13 authorities facing a city-for-defying-the-Government spending cuts, has been urged into further crisis by resignation of Mr. William Eric, its director of housing.

Mr. Eric, 45, has decided to resign last night after disagreements with council, mostly caused by refusal to make cuts and to staff.

Mr. Barnes said that the refusal had been caused by the council, which in turn had the housing policy in mind.

A council has refused so to make immediate cuts in attempt to be let off the £1.5m grant reduction. That could mean the loss of a supplementary £1.5m in the year.

Mr. Roy Shaw, leader of the council, has asked central heads to prepare a plan for a 10 per cent cut in budgets for next year.

Shaw is still hoping that council will be able to

escape this year's penalty by challenging the decision of Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, in the courts with the other penalized authorities.

Mr. Barnes criticized the council for not taking action earlier to prune the less essential posts, particularly in the area of central administration which provides no direct services, and then to open negotiations with the unions in good time about how to achieve these savings.

"Camden did neither: instead it continued to repeat the slogan of 'no cuts in services and no redundancies'."

He said he deplored the rise in unemployment, but added that if a council had to reduce staff numbers, it needed time.

"Given a year or more you can probably achieve most of it by natural wastage."

"But you also need an effective redeployment policy to move people from less important to more important jobs."

Camden council last night refused to comment on the resignation of the two officers.

ly Barnett's ne raided ing service

Arthur Osman

Mr. Barnett, the television star who died eight days after a memorial service, was being held in a church at Cossington, Northamptonshire, on Sunday when the police said yesterday.

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Court clerks are sentenced over jailing error

From Our Correspondent, Cardiff

Two magistrates' court clerks who allowed a man to go to prison when he should have been fined were given nine-month suspended prison sentences at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday.

Mr. Justice Phillips told Derek George Barbotte and Mary Ann Evans: "Obviously you realize better than most that any offences touching the administration of justice are very grave."

The court was told that Mr. Alan Wright, aged 23, of Iron Street, Cardiff, had been found guilty of speeding and driving a car without licence and insurance by the city's magistrates.

He was sentenced to 90 days imprisonment but it was only after he had been taken to the cells that the clerks realized that they did not have power to pass on a jail sentence for the offences.

However, instead of correcting the error they altered the court records to give the impression that the jail sentence had been imposed because Mr. Wright could not pay a fine. He spent five weeks and two days in jail.

visers to help MPs in ly of arts funding

Arts Reporter

Art advisers are to be asked to assist a Commons select committee when it starts work on the most thorough inquiry into the financing of the arts in the history of the British.

Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for Staffordshire, West, said yesterday: "I am taking most of the time in this project, and we will produce a report to the end of it."

The Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts will start taking evidence, probably before Christmas, with some sessions in public.

The committee will examine expectations by government ministers that a growing share of arts funding will be taken over by the private sector, and decide to what extent that is a realistic assumption.

Aspects of arts funding in the EEC and the United States will be part of the committee's brief.

it climbers admonished

men and a woman, after a weekend climb in the Black Mountains of mid-Wales, have been admonished by police for "appalling" conditions.

They had not been seen since Saturday morning from the summit of Llanbedr.

Mr. Richard Best, of St. Margaret's, Llanbedr, said: "I was told that they had been seen on the summit of Llanbedr, near Chard; Mr. Stephen Clark, aged 29, of Down Road, Folkestone, Kent; and Mr. Gregory Chapman, aged 26, of Greenmeadows, Cwmbran, South Wales.

The police said they were found walking along a lonely mountain road at about 1.30 pm yesterday. They had been admonished for failing to leave details of their route or to fix a meeting point and time.

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HOME NEWS

Equity refusal to allow Doris Archer a peaceful death

By Kenneth Gosling

Doris Archer's radio death and funeral ran into a snag yesterday when Equity, the actors' union, objected to scenes recorded with a real congregation at a Warwickshire church. They said their own members would have taken part instead.

The BBC had to scrap the original recording of last night's episode of *The Archers* on Radio 4 in which Doris Archer dies. Her death took place on schedule after the BBC replaced the recording, made at the parish church in Cherington, with a gramophone record.

Doris was played by Gwen Berryman, who is convalescing after a stroke.

Equity also complained about the same recording being used in the funeral service which will be broadcast on Thursday, and the BBC plan to replace that with the BBC Singers.

The death has been one of radio's least well-kept secrets, and there was an element of scepticism about an Equity statement last night which quoted Mr Peter Plowman, the general secretary, as saying: "Whilst we are happy to help the BBC in this publicity stunt because we believe radio drama is the best in the world and we would like to help them maximize their audience, we would much rather that they used

their energies in producing more original drama, music and light entertainment material for radio."

The statement objected to the use of Cherington church because Equity members had lost 2,000 engagements in radio drama compared with last year. A loss felt particularly severely by professional singers.

The BBC said Equity's action had caused pandemonium. The union had threatened, it said, to "black" Thursday's funeral. "But we have arranged to record the BBC Singers performing the final hymn in the church. *The Day That Came*. Lord is Ended", at St Giles, Cripplegate and the tapes will be sent to Birmingham, where *The Archers* is recorded."

A spokesman at the BBC's Pebble Mill headquarters in Birmingham said last night: "It is very regrettable and a great pity that Doris is not allowed to die in peace." There had, he said, been several messages with threats to Berryman's speedy recovery.

The Rector of Cherington, the Rev John Woodward-Court, said that about 30 members of the congregation stayed behind after the service to help the BBC to make the recording.

"All we did was to provide a typical country church atmosphere. I think that is what appealed to *The Archers* producer, William Smethurst."

Ban sought on march by neo-Nazi group

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is to be asked to ban a march by a neo-Nazi group to the Whitehall Cenotaph after the Remembrance Day parade on November 9.

Mr Harry Curtis, chairman of the defence committee of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women, said he would be making the request because of increasing protests over the march planned by European Remembrance and Reconciliation Association.

Mr Curtis said: "From the information I have this is just some kind of front organization for the neo-Nazi League of St George. It is desecration to allow such people to march on the day we are remembering those who died in the Second World War. It makes a mockery of the whole thing."

The association is said to be planning to march with a band from a Flemish neo-Nazi group. Mr Curtis said they should not be allowed to enter the country.

Air Vice-Marshal Charles Maughan, general secretary of the Royal British Legion, said there had been a number of

angry telephone calls from ex-servicemen and Legion branches, once a report of the proposed march appeared in the *Daily Mirror*.

He said: "We are remembering those who died in defence of freedom and we totally deplore the fact that a group who cannot possibly subscribe to those ideals are planning to participate in this national day of remembrance."

The Home Office yesterday emphasized that the association would have no part in the formal Cenotaph ceremony, attended by the Queen. It is, however, usual for several groups to march to the Cenotaph last night.

Mr Martin Webster, national organizer for the National Front, said yesterday: "We have nothing whatever to do with this organization or the League of St George."

The Home Office, the Department of the Environment, the London district headquarters of the Army, and Scotland Yard, which help to arrange the Remembrance Day ceremony, were asked yesterday about the proposed march. Official sources said that the march would be held if not impossible to ban; permission to march is not needed.

Judge postpones the trial of Lady Kagan

The trial of Lady Kagan, aged 54, a director of Kagan Textiles Ltd, of West Yorkshire, and three other members of the company, was postponed until Thursday at Leeds Crown Court yesterday.

The trial should have started yesterday, but after Mr Justice Smith had heard submissions in chambers from defence counsel, he announced the postponement.

Charged with Lady Kagan are Raymond Kennedy, aged 53, the company secretary, of Waskedwood Drive, Leeds; Vladimir Ginsburg and his wife Irina, of Bullen Edge, Eiland, near Huddersfield; Kagan Textiles Ltd, of Eiland, and Cellofoam (Yorkshire) of Rastrick, West Yorkshire.

They are charged jointly with conspiracy to defraud the Crown over the proceeds from denim cloth exports. The defendants face the charges concerning the export of denim cloth and Mr Kennedy, Mr and Mrs Ginsburg and the two other companies are also charged with falsifying documents.

Court hearing on suicide guide adjourned

A legal battle to stop EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia group, publishing a booklet telling members how to commit suicide was adjourned by Mr Justice Fox in the High Court in London yesterday.

But the judge continued an undertaking given by Mr Nicholas Reed and the committee not to publish the booklet pending a court ruling.

Dr Gordon Scott, a member of the group, is seeking a temporary order preventing its Secretary, Mr Reed, and the 12 members of the executive committee from publishing *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, pending full hearing of his action.

Inquiry into disused church

A public inquiry opens today into the proposed demolition of Holy Trinity Church, Rugby.

Holy Trinity, designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and completed in 1854, was declared redundant in 1974. An action group has been formed to fight the proposed demolition. It will be supported at the inquiry by the Ancient Monuments Society and the Victorian Society.



Mr David Payne with his giant marrow, with Mr Ronald Butcher and his 229lb pumpkin; Mr Robert Rodger, with his onion, and Mr Colin Moore with his outside parsnip.

Teapot size onion sets record

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

An onion the size of a teapot was declared a world record holder for weight yesterday.

The monstrous bulb, grown in the garden of a Scottish council house, weighed 6lb-7oz.

It has earned Mr Robert Rodger, its grower, £500 in prize money. Yesterday it brought him a saviour from the organizers of a contest for giant vegetables.

The saviour was presented by Mr Morris McWhirter, editor of the *Guinness Book of Records*.

The champion was shown in London alongside a radish the size of a truncheon, gourds like fante-pots, a marrow like a section of a tree trunk and tomatoes as large as melons. They were assembled in an annual celebration of an art taken seriously in Britain but little known elsewhere: that of growing vegetables so enormous that they are often far too tough to eat.

Mr Moore, a former policeman from Brighton, who decided to start a business in the garden, said that he had been digging his vegetable patch in East Sussex and had found the giant parsnip by chance.

With a length of almost 3ft and a weight of 69 pounds, the marrow grown by Mr David Payne, a factory security guard from Forthampton, Gloucestershire, cleared the previous record by five pounds.

The proposal suggests that the system of lump sum maternity grants and weekly maternity allowances paid by the state, and statutory obligations for maternity pay by employers, should be reformed.

The consultation document makes clear that the Government no longer thinks it practical to transfer all responsibility for maternity pay to employers,

as was suggested in a draft paper. The proposals envisage a greater emphasis on state provisions, but with changes designed to redistribute the total money available at different rates for different categories of women.

The option favoured most by the consultation paper would provide six weeks' maternity pay, reimbursed from state funds, the rest for a better maternity grant and retention of the maternity allowance, available for a maximum of 18 weeks at £6.50 a week.

The maternity grant would rise from £25, the level it was set at 11 years ago, to either £80 for all children or £100 for the first and £60 for subsequent children.

The other options would either concentrate existing resources on increasing the maternity grant, or split responsibilities differently between employers and the state.

Concentrating on maternity grant alone would mean abolishing both employers' maternity pay obligations and National Insurance maternity allowance. Instead, there would

be either a maternity grant of £40 for all children, £200 for the first child and £80 for subsequent children. This would save 400 Civil Service jobs.

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US drug to help combat arthritis suffering is launched in Britain

By Amabel Ferman

Health Services Correspondent

A drug to combat arthritis, which has been used by several hundred thousand patients in the United States, was launched in Britain yesterday.

The drug, a non-steroid, anti-inflammatory agent, is closely related to aspirin, but the manufacturers claim that it does not have the side effects sometimes associated with aspirin, such as stomach irritation and occasional interference with blood clotting.

Marketed by Parke-Davis, Trilamine, it is now available on prescription and from chemists. It costs £42 for 60 tablets, about seven times as much as aspirin.

Professor George Zlatich, Professor of Medicine at the Hahnemann Medical College

Hospital, Philadelphia, speaking at the launch in London, said that rheumatic disorders affected about one in four of the population.

"About 15 million people in Britain may have some form of rheumatic disease and in about 1.5 million it is potentially crippling," he said.

Such diseases were not fatal, but interfered with the quality of life. The drug, whose full name was, chibine mesonamide, was taken less often than aspirin, twice as often to three or four times a day, and was better tolerated by most patients.

The drug was one of the salicylate family, as was aspirin, but whereas aspirin was acetyl salicylate, the new drug did not have the acetyl moiety. It was

thought that the acetyl part of aspirin might be the part that interfered with blood clotting.

Mr John Brogan, director of marketing for Parke-Davis, said that the promotion of the drug, which was to be manufactured for the British market in Aberdeen, would start with hospital doctors.

It was impossible to know how well it would be accepted in Britain. Doctors in the United States treating arthritis tended to try a salicylate first, and only if that did not work would they look at other drugs. But doctors in Britain tended to go for propionic acid derivatives, another branch of the non-steroid, anti-inflammatory drug family.

Benxapron, whose trade name is Opren, a new arthritis drug launched last week, is in that last category.

Mr Brogan said that the drug was one of the salicylate family, as was aspirin, but whereas aspirin was acetyl salicylate, the new drug did not have the acetyl moiety. It was

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thought that the acetyl part of aspirin might be the part that interfered with blood clotting.

Mr John Brogan, director of marketing for Parke-Davis, said that the promotion of the drug, which was to be manufactured for the British market in Aberdeen, would start with hospital doctors.

It was impossible to know how well it would be accepted in Britain. Doctors in the United States treating arthritis tended to try a salicylate first, and only if that did not work would they look at other drugs. But doctors in Britain tended to go for propionic acid derivatives, another branch of the non-steroid, anti-inflammatory drug family.

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Ex-minister troubled by immigrant hunts

By Lucy Hodges

Home Office Correspondent

A former minister of state at the Home Office has discovered from investigating his old Civil Service files that an Immigration Act of 1971 is being interpreted in a new and different way to catch illegal immigrants.

Mr Benjamin John, Labour MP for Pontypool, who was a minister in the Labour Government, says in an interview to be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 tonight that he had specific advice from Scotland Yard that warrants for arrest under the Act could be executed only on a named individual. And he was told that for "a fishing expedition".

Earlier this year raids in search of illegal immigrants were made at the Hilton Hotel, Main Gas, and Bestways, a supermarket, concern with general warrants, not named individuals suspected.

In the programme *Real Evidence* Mr John says that is directly contrary to the assurances he was given when he was a minister at a very senior level by the Metropolitan Police.

As a result of this assurance, which the former minister has checked, Mr John issued a statement that no "fishing expeditions" would be carried out in search of illegal immigrants.

It did not, he said, change in any way the Home Office's policy to catch illegal immigrants.

Mr John said yesterday: "It does open up some possibility, to put it no higher than that, of a 'fishing expedition' being carried out in the hope that someone illegal will come your way."

Mr John attributes the new policy to the changed political climate.

The Home Office said yesterday that it had received legal advice to the effect that there was nothing in the Immigration Act to specify that a warrant for arrest could be authorized only for a named person.

Mr Ian Martin, general secretary of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, said that there had been a change of view in the Home Office. "The fact is that at one time the police's understanding of the law was otherwise, and this was presumably not just off the top of their heads," he said. "Ultimately only the courts can decide who is right."

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Maternity benefit options set out

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

The Government yesterday disclosed its plans for merging maternity benefits and offered three options for consultation over the next seven weeks. But a consultation document suggested that the Government is not totally convinced that change is necessary.

The plans arise from the Government's Green Paper proposing to transfer responsibility for sickness pay during the first eight weeks from the National Insurance system to employers if any of the three options for change proposed in the new consultation document is endorsed, it would be included in the expected Bill on sick pay early in the new year.

The proposal suggests that the system of lump sum maternity grants and weekly maternity allowances paid by the state, and statutory obligations for maternity pay by employers, should be reformed.

The consultation document makes clear that the Government no longer thinks it practical to transfer all responsibility for maternity pay to employers,

as was suggested in a draft paper. The proposals envisage a greater emphasis on state provisions, but with changes designed to redistribute the total money available at different rates for different categories of women.

The option favoured most by the consultation paper would provide six weeks' maternity pay, reimbursed from state funds, the rest for a better maternity grant and retention of the maternity allowance, available for a maximum of 18 weeks at £6.50 a week.

The maternity grant would rise from £25, the level it was set at 11 years ago, to either £80 for all children or £100 for the first and £60 for subsequent children.

The other options would either concentrate existing resources on increasing the maternity grant, or split responsibilities differently between employers and the state.

Concentrating on maternity grant alone would mean abolishing both employers' maternity pay obligations and National Insurance maternity allowance. Instead, there would

be either a maternity grant of £40 for all children, £200 for the first child and £80 for subsequent children. This would save 400 Civil Service jobs.

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1.5 million troubled immigrants

WEST EUROPE

Agreement on uniform EEC alcohol tax delayed

From Michael Hornsby, Luxembourg, Oct 27

Wine and beer makers will have to wait at least two more months to learn whether their favourite ripples will cost more or less as a result of moves to standardize taxation of alcoholic drinks in the European Community.

Speaking after a meeting of EEC finance ministers, Peter Rees, Minister of State at the Treasury, said he thought it extremely unlikely that the best duty would be applied to all countries. It has been claimed by fish brewers.

But he said he did "not want to foreclose any of the budgetary options open to the Chancellor of the Exchequer" if when the new EEC tax measures are put into effect.

Mr Rees and his fellow Ministers were unable to agree the measures as they stood. They are to meet again on November 19 or December 22 for more discussion among the 12.

He proposed a most common duty on table wine should not be more than three times the duty on the same quantity of beer. At present, the duty on table wine is nearly five times more than beer brewed in Britain.

It is regarded as discriminatory by the European Commission and by members of that export wine.

French presidential election campaign reaches a stalemate

From Ian Murray, Paris, October 27

The presidential campaign in France, after an early start, will be deadlocked until after Christmas. Although 29 candidates have so far declared themselves, only one of the representatives of the four main parties is known—predictably the Communist—and there is little expected to happen before the new year.

Last weekend both M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, and M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, made it clear they did not intend their names to be finally agreed until some time in January.

M. Mitterrand neatly slipped through the trap laid for him by M. Chirac, the more dynamic, younger Socialist leader, who last week put forward his own candidature. M. Mitterrand, calling on all his experience, went back through two previous presidential campaigns—has refused to join the race yet, while continuing to jog along to keep up with the other Socialist leaders.

What he said was that he was prepared to serve the party if the party wanted him to serve. That means he is passing the responsibility for his selection down to the rank and file militants, who have generally shown that they support his candidature. At the same time he has succeeded in not becoming personally involved in the mudslinging within his party that has inevitably followed the

Criticism of Luther regretted by Catholics

From Gretel Spitzer, Berlin, Oct 27

The Evangelical Church in Germany noted with gratification the statement of the Catholic Bishops' Conference today saying that neither the conference nor Professor Remigius Baumer, the church historian from Freiburg and author of a booklet on the history of the church, intended "a one-sided or even offending description of the Reformation or of Martin Luther".

The booklet, prepared for the forthcoming visit of the Pope, described Martin Luther among other things as a mighty warrior, and claimed that his uncontrollable rage and polemics made him blind to Catholic truth.

The passages of the booklet on the Reformation caused an uproar among German Protestants and beyond their ranks, and were also criticized by Catholics.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference regretted the disturbance and annoyance caused by the booklet among Protestants. It explained that the conference did not know the contents of the article or that of other publications in preparation for the Pope's visit when deciding that Professor Baumer's contribution was to be sent to all priests.

The conference said that the author was aware of what was described as a "limited perspective" of the Reformation and Martin Luther; he would explain this in a postscript to the forthcoming next edition.



Asbestos-clad firemen tackle a blazing oil pipeline near Forchheim, Bavaria. It carries Soviet gas and sabotage was suspected.

Fish are the first victims of a lavender war in mountains of Provence

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, Oct 27

Thousands of fish have been the first casualties in a lavender war that has broken out in the scented mountains of Haute Provence. They have died as part of an action designed to save 800 families.

The lavender war was threatened last year when a large dossier labelled *Lavande Fine* was dropped on the desk of someone in the Ministry of Agriculture. That dossier contained an ultimatum: either French lavender production was protected and upgraded or there would be trouble.

Trouble there has been. A commando-style attack recently caused 93,000 litres of fine lavender water to flow into an Alpine river, polluting it for a stretch of 30 miles, killing thousands of fish and poisoning the plant life along the banks.

Since the ultimatum, the dossier appears to have gathered dust, while the 800 French families who live exclusively from lavender production have gone on gathering their sweet-scented herb, feeling increasingly sour about it.

The trouble, according to the dossier, is that substandard lavender from the East has been infiltrating French borders, selling at half the price of the home grown product.

Worse even than this is the arrival of a cheap, synthetic lavender on the perfume market. About 6,000 tonnes of it are produced every year and, as far as the folk of Haute Provence are concerned, this constitutes little short of chemical warfare.

It is as a defence against this that the lavender growers are asking the Ministry of Agriculture to accord the *Fine Lavande* name exclusively to the produce of the Drôme and of Provence with an appellation d'origine rather similar to that accorded to some wines and cheeses.

Fine lavender now costs 150 francs (£14.50) a kilogramme, compared with the 35-50 francs for the more prolific lavandin hybrid, which is grown more at the moment in consequence, since its price is more competitive with the eastern imports.

So far, however, the *Lavande Fine* label has not been awarded and lavender water, made from lavandin, has been stockpiling in the stills of the cooperative at Palmoisson, high in the alps. It was those stills whose taps were opened, polluting the river.

Although the local lavender growers' association has condemned this "inadmissible act", it is nevertheless a fortunate coincidence for them that the amount of scented essence lost is almost exactly equivalent to this year's excess of lavandin production.

If the excuses of the lavender growers about the tap turning incident seem a bit fishy, they cannot perhaps be blamed for believing the ministry will pay no attention unless they protest forcefully.

Mr Luns opposes widening Nato's boundaries

From Henry Stanhope, London, Oct 27

Mr Luns, the NATO Secretary-General, said in London today that the NATO alliance should be able to defend the territory which it looked after without taking on any step which could lead to a dangerous extension of its membership.

Mr Luns, who is seeking on December 7 to announce his decision, has said he is "temporarily" withdrawing from the day's most serious defeat in the party for Dr. Soares.

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Socialist vote further divides Dr Soares

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon, Oct 27

More than 150 members of the Socialist National Commission yesterday wrestled with the problem of how to prevent the party from breaking in two.

The crisis was denounced by the Socialist Party, who are seeking on December 7 to announce his decision, has said he is "temporarily" withdrawing from the day's most serious defeat in the party for Dr. Soares.

£1.2m won by Spanish footballer

From Gary Debelius, London, Oct 27

A Spanish footballer has won the biggest prize yet in the world's largest lottery, £1.2 million.

The winner, Angel Legazpi, aged 45, is the only person to predict the outcome of the Spanish league football played over the weekend.

Dutch supreme court hears Menten appeal

From Robert Schul, Amsterdam, Oct 27

The supreme court of the Netherlands today began hearing the appeal by Mr Pieter Menten, the 81-year-old Dutch millionaire and art collector, against his conviction for war crimes.

On July 9 the Rotterdam court found him guilty of playing a role in the mass execution by an SS-Sonderkommando of between 20 and 30 Polish nationals, mainly Jews, in the village of Pruszy, which at the time was in German-occupied Poland and is now part of the Ukraine.

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OVERSEAS

Polish free union backs down on ultimatum to Prime Minister but strike retaliation not ruled out

From Dossa Trevisan.

Warsaw, Oct 27. After much heated debate the leaders of the Solidarity trade union federation today decided against trying out their strength and withdrew a 24-hour ultimatum to Mr Jozef Pielinski, the Polish Prime Minister, to meet them in the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk. Instead a meeting with him has tentatively been arranged for Thursday.

The ball is now in the other court, and tonight a government spokesman confirmed that the invitation was received but that no decision has so far been taken or, indeed, is likely to be taken tonight.

Thus, uncertainty prevails as the members are still thinking of a token strike if the talks fail or if the Prime Minister refuses to talk; but the feeling here is that slowly, and uneasily, both sides are now getting down to trying to reach an understanding.

Earlier today as the meeting began in the union's headquarters in the Morski Hotel, Miss Anna Walentynowicz, in a vigorous speech said that if the authorities really wanted dialogue this was the time to prove it.

A telegram inviting the Prime Minister to meet the workers of the Lenin Shipyard was sent with the decision that unless he came tomorrow, the shipyard would go on strike. "This is pressure," Miss Walentynowicz said. "But this is what the unions intended, if for that the authorities explain clearly their intentions, sit at

the table, and talk like Poles should be talking to Poles."

But, as on previous occasions, Mr Lech Walesa, the union leader, after talking to the region's prefect, proposed setting up a commission to examine all their grievances and present them to the Prime Minister with the invitation for him to come.

Another resolution approved was that the unions contest the court's decision to modify a statute of the constitution. The possibility of another general strike was left open. Thus, the strike was deferred but the unionists were by no means unanimous though the moderate line prevailed.

The miners of Jastrebie as well as the union branch of Szczecin strongly opposed it on the grounds that it would be a provocation which in any case the moderates, also, feared might become just the very thing the party hardliners were waiting for.

"We do not want a tragedy," Mr Walesa said. "All we want is to know what we stand."

But the government is already losing no time to reassure the unions of its good will and is moving fast. The conflict with the railway workers in Wroclaw last week over value increases has been settled, and 35 people stopped their hunger strike.

A settlement with construction workers in Gdansk today promised considerable wage increases starting this month, with further increases at the beginning of next year, thus reinforcing the feeling that the Government is doing what it can.

Meanwhile, the press is at great pains to remove all ambiguity by stressing that solidarity now exists legally though with modified statutes, and explaining why the judge took it upon himself to insert the clause giving the party a leading role.

The feeling is that this coup de force was directed not so much against the union, as against those in the party who reject even the notion of an independent union, and are looking hopefully for new tensions which would provide a pretext to clamp down.

Mr Kania, the new party leader, just like Mr Walesa, now has his own radicals to hear in mind, and the feeling is that the majority in the party is still extremely suspicious of the party's new political line aimed at striking a partnership and renewing the institutions of checks and balances.

He wants an authentic form of self-government to put the economy back on its feet; but in order to move on he needs the union's understanding, if not unquestioned cooperation, which he has so far not even begun to achieve.

If an understanding can be struck, there is a chance of reinforcing the reformist and moderates in the party around a renewal programme. The leadership also has to go on convincing Poland's allies in the wisdom of such a policy.

The Solidarity union is now going ahead with the appeal against the court's unilateral act. But the uncertainty still prevails before the two sides can meet and before the unions know where exactly they stand.



Crowds cluster round the Iranian Parliament, where MPs were debating terms for releasing the American hostages.

Majlis again defers decision on US hostages

Tehran, Oct 27.—The Iranian Parliament today adjourned the debate on terms for the release of the American hostages until Wednesday after two sessions behind closed doors failed to produce agreement.

Almost a year after the 52 hostages were seized at the United States Embassy here by militant students, the Majlis (Parliament) convened yesterday to hear a special commission's proposals on what Iran should demand for the return of the captives' freedom.

Seven hours of debate failed to produce a result yesterday and after two sessions today, one on the hostages and the other on the war with Iraq, the Majlis adjourned on Wednesday. Tomorrow is a Muslim holiday.

Although the commission's report has not been made public, no secret has been made of the fact that it contains four conditions laid down six weeks

ago by Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader.

The ayatollah said the captives could be freed if America helped Iran's efforts to regain the wealth of the late Shah, unblocked Iranian assets frozen because of the hostage claims, cancelled financial claims against Iran, and pledged not to interfere in Iranian affairs.

Deputies said the debate in the Majlis concerned what further conditions, if any, to impose. One MP said there were various proposals. One group sought postponement of the whole issue until the end of the war with Iraq or after the American presidential elections (which will take place on the first anniversary of the hostages' seizure). But other Deputies opposed this and the Majlis yesterday rejected postponing the debate.

Majlis sources again said one condition proposed by the com-

mission was the withdrawal of American naval forces from the Gulf area—a demand said to have been opposed by a leading cleric in the Assembly on the ground that the United States would consider it impossible.

The sources said the previously mentioned demand that the United States should condemn its past policies in Iran was implicit in the commission's report, but some Deputies were saying it should be an explicit condition.

Disagreements among the Deputies threatened to drag out the debate for several more days if not longer. Diplomatic sources said only intervention by the ayatollah could slice through the parliamentary bickering and precipitate the release of the hostages.

Ayatollah Khomeini will grant an audience tomorrow to MPs, and political leaders are also expected to visit him.

Carter told President Carter has told Iran that the United States Government was prepared to accept three of the four conditions laid down by Ayatollah Khomeini, ABC news said today.

The American network reported that President Ronald Reagan had received a message from Mr Carter, which was set out in the summary of the state case. Mr Bloom-Cooper said: "The primary facts are not in dispute: that the events of August 4 at the farm took place and all who were there were there and took part in them."

"If the court is of the opinion that the minister was acting in good faith for the purpose of the suppression of terrorism, then the court will have to stop the proceedings and discharge Mr Tekere and the other seven accused."

Mr Bloom-Cooper claimed with Justice Piman that the court was seeking Justice Piman belonged to the judiciary throughout the Rhodesian rebellion. "Your Lordship took an oath of allegiance to the Queen, but the Queen had no validity in the eyes of the sovereign," Mr Bloom-Cooper said.

Tekere role admitted in shooting at farm

Salisbury, Oct 27.—A British lawyer, detailing Mr Edgar Tekere, the Zimbabwe Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, said in court today that the minister did not dispute the facts behind the prosecution charges of murder.

Mr Louis Bloom-Cooper, who is charged with murdering Mr Gerald Adams, a white farm manager, on August 4, 1975, was discharged because the court had no jurisdiction in his case. Mr Bloom-Cooper, who was admitted to the Zimbabwe Bar to defend Mr Tekere, said he would invoke the 1975 Indemnity and Compensation Act to defend the minister and his seven bodyguards.

The Act drawn up by the former Rhodesian administration grants government leaders immunity from prosecution for acts aimed at suppressing terrorism. In White Rhodesia Mr Tekere was regarded as an arch-terrorist.

Earlier Mr Bloom-Cooper had told the court that Mr Tekere did not dispute the prosecution's version of events at Stamford Farm, near Salisbury, where Mr Adams, who was 68, was shot.

At previous hearings police witnesses said Mr Tekere had been at a party near Stamford Farm on the night of August 3 when Adams was shot. The next day the minister returned with seven of his bodyguards to lead an attack on black soldiers from the former Rhodesian African Rifles who were on the farm. The group then shot Mr Adams' cottage and he died as he tried to summon help; police have told the High Court.

"I can say here and now that such a thing as a minor, set out in the summary of the state case," Mr Bloom-Cooper said. "The primary facts are not in dispute: that the events of August 4 at the farm took place and all who were there were there and took part in them."

"If the court is of the opinion that the minister was acting in good faith for the purpose of the suppression of terrorism, then the court will have to stop the proceedings and discharge Mr Tekere and the other seven accused."

Mr Bloom-Cooper claimed with Justice Piman that the court was seeking Justice Piman belonged to the judiciary throughout the Rhodesian rebellion. "Your Lordship took an oath of allegiance to the Queen, but the Queen had no validity in the eyes of the sovereign," Mr Bloom-Cooper said.

Mr Tekere and the judge had been of opposite sides during the seven-year Rhodesian war as the advocate said. The test was to decide whether there were "unconscious influences" on the judge from the old days of rebellion, which would cause Mr Tekere to believe that he would not get a fair trial.

Judge Piman told Mr Bloom-Cooper: "When a judge is appointed he swears to act impartially."

UN says nobody killed in gunship attacks

Islamabad, Oct 27.—Three people were wounded but nobody was killed when Soviet-built, helicopter-attacked an encampment and a village in Pakistan on Friday, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) announced today.

Corroborating yesterday's report by United Nations officials, Mr Roman Kohout, the UNHCR chief representative, said that it had been based on refugees' statements.

A UNHCR representative now reported that six gunships had machine-gunned first a village of tents—not a camp for Afghan refugees—near Mandi Khel, and then a mud-brick village at Pasi Khel. One of the wounded was a refugee, Reuters.

Iraq wins key bridge and hastens victory

From Robert Fisk

Beirut, Oct 27

The fall of Khorramshahr, trumpeted on four occasions by the Iraqis since the Gulf war began and denied by the Iraqis each time with equal vehemence, at last seems to be nearing reality.

The Iraqis admitted this morning that their forces had lost all contact with their troops in the port city and that the bridge connecting it to the besieged refinery city of Abadan was no longer possible to cross.

This bridge—across the Karun river—previously provided the only physical link between the Iraqis in Khorramshahr and Abadan. The Iraqi Army's armoured thrust across the Karun further north by pontoon bridge and their subsequent push to the south of Abadan now means that the Iraqis are effectively encircled in two steadily contracting pockets of territory beside the Shatt al-Arab waterway.

According to the Iraqis, the Karun bridge in Khorramshahr is still intact but the subject of so much shell and rifle fire that it is impossible to use.

For more than two weeks now, the Iraqis have fought to cut the Khorramshahr defenders off from Abadan, rightly surmising that the Iraqis in the second city were still supplying ammunition to their colleagues in the port.

The Iraqis still have a few serviceable Chieftain tanks on the southern bank of the Karun in Khorramshahr, but most of the port has been in Iraqi hands for a fortnight.

Tehran radio said that although all contact had been lost with Khorramshahr, it had none the less received some reports that "the enemy has invaded new positions in the city and is busily engaged to consolidate its position."

For their part, the Iraqis reported a desperate attempt by the Iraqis to break out of the Abadan encirclement. Baghdad radio claimed that Iraqi Air Force jets provided cover for

the Iraqi tanks which allegedly "liquidated" the Iranian brigade near the Karun river bridge.

Unless the Iraqis themselves sue for peace—which on past experience would be unthinkable—then it seems certain that President Saddam Hussein of Iraq will press on with the war. The Iraqi Government is far from diplomatic peace overtures only when the city has surrendered.

He would then have tactical military control over the whole Shatt al-Arab waterway and might feel free to suggest some compromise to end the war.

Yet President Hussein is unlikely to be in a mood for compromise once his troops control the waterway—and the Iraqis are going to be in no mood to meet again to continue talks in Mr Sadat's native village of Meit Abu El Kom, 30 miles north of Cairo.

Certain agreements had been reached, but Mr Sadat said no details would be given until they had been discussed by the respective Governments.

Mr Navon, who has become the first Israeli President to visit an Arab country, was only scheduled to take a tour of the village with Mr Sadat as his guide.

Although Mr Navon, who is a figurehead in his country's Government, cautioned that "no concrete solutions" are to be expected from his talks here, he emphasized that Israel is interested in "increasing" the pace of the negotiations and that he and Mr Sadat discussed ways of doing so.

War speeds Cairo peace talks

From Our Correspondent

Cairo, Oct 27

The Presidents of Egypt and Israel today agreed that an Iraq-Iraq war, now in its second month, makes it necessary for them to strive for a Middle East peace settlement.

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and President Yitzhak Navon of Israel, after a two-hour meeting, said they agreed that the two countries should find ways to overcome the obstacles. "It is an obligation to give more momentum to the peace process," Mr Sadat said.

This Iraq-Iraq war is very hot... very dangerous," Mr Navon said he agreed.

They said they had had "very fruitful" discussions, had agreed to meet again to continue talks in Mr Sadat's native village of Meit Abu El Kom, 30 miles north of Cairo.

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High Soviet post for trade expert

Moscow, Oct 27.—Mr Ivan Arkhipov, aged 73, an expert on foreign trade, was appointed Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister today in political changes caused by the resignation of Mr Kosygin as Prime Minister.

This promotion from the rank of the 12 deputy prime ministers makes him nominally second-in-command to Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the new Prime Minister.—Reuters.

Met dispute nearing settlement

By Martin Ruckley

Music Reporter

Optimism was being shown yesterday by the Metropolitan Opera in New York, which has prospect of a settlement in the industrial dispute which has cancelled the cancellation of the 1980-81 season.

A lockout was imposed by the Met management on September 2 after negotiations with the musicians broke down over a new four performance working week.

However, the Met said yesterday that it had reached a tentative agreement with the orchestra and was now seeking agreement with the other 16 unions at the opera house.

The musicians still have to ratify the new agreement. The Met said: "If we could start rehearsals this week, then we could open by the end of November." But even if all the negotiations prove successful, the remainder of the opera season is likely to be severely disrupted.

Because the whole season was cancelled many of the singers who were due to appear in New York have been looking for engagements elsewhere, and a lot of substitutions are likely.

Moreover, the scheduled operas may also have to be changed. Some performances may not go ahead because the opera house should have taken place earlier this autumn, and others may have to be dropped because of the absence of suitable singers.

Tonight's television debate could decide race for White House

From David Cross

Washington, Oct 27

Like two prize-fighters before a world championship match, President Carter and Ronald Reagan have been planning their strategy and conserving their energy for tomorrow night's crucial television debate.

Because the two contenders are so evenly matched in the opinion polls just a week before election day, the minute debate in Cleveland, Ohio, is widely regarded by the press and the public at large as possibly determining the outcome of the vote.

Even Mr Robert Strauss, the Carter campaign manager, acknowledged during a television interview yesterday that the debate would have an important impact on the chances of the two challengers.

"There probably won't be a winner decided by either the American people will be able to see what Governor Reagan stands for and what President Carter stands for," he added.

Neither candidate is leaving anything to chance. Mr Carter, speaking yesterday at Camp David, the presidential retreat in the hills of northern Maryland, studying details of the various issues he expects to be raised during the debate. After an election rally in West Virginia today, he was travelling to Cleveland for yet more preparation for the debate.

As he fits a former film star,

Mr Reagan has been rehearsing his role in the debate before a camera on a makeshift podium in the garage of his rented house in Middleburg, Virginia.

He has called in his senior domestic and foreign policy experts to brief him on the subjects on which he is likely to be questioned and has studied videotape recordings of the debates between Mr



US Elections

Carter and President Ford during the 1976 election campaign. Today he was lunching with Mr Ford before setting out tomorrow for Ohio.

The last week before election day is always filled with newspaper headlines for either the Democratic or the Republican nominee from newspapers around the country and that tradition is being upheld again this year. Generally speaking, newspapers which have so far come out for a candidate have done so with mixed feelings.

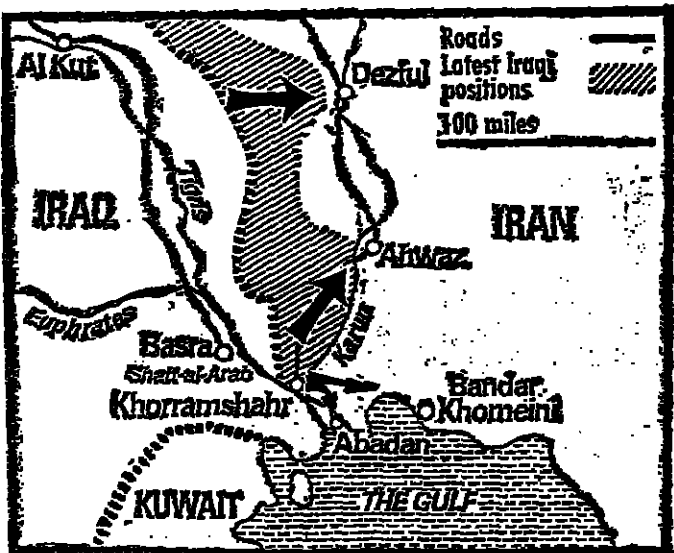
The New York Times, for example, said that although Mr Carter seemed at times to be "all sail and no boat" he offered "better goods" than his Republican opponent. The Philadelphia Inquirer said it was supporting the President

for reelection "with grave misgivings". The former Governor of California has secured the backing of the influential Chicago Tribune, which said that his candidacy carried "a sense of mission, of direction, of purpose in the public opinion polls has been slipping badly in recent weeks. The Denver County Times in Pennsylvania, for example, said that Mr Anderson, who has been excluded from numerous debates, was "the most promising" to lead the nation.

The latest opinion surveys have confirmed the new trend in support for the three candidates which first emerged last week. Mr Carter has now caught up with Mr Reagan by 41 per cent, and Mr Anderson by 12 per cent with 5 per cent undecided.

This week's Time magazine says the President was backed by 42 per cent of those interviewed in its poll. Mr Reagan by 41 per cent, and Mr Anderson by 12 per cent with 5 per cent undecided.

The New York Times, for example, said that although Mr Carter seemed at times to be "all sail and no boat" he offered "better goods" than his Republican opponent. The Philadelphia Inquirer said it was supporting the President



Peking catches up with fast food, pinball and the good life

From David Bonavia

Peking, Oct 27

Foreign residents and visitors in Peking can no longer complain that they have nothing to do in the evenings except entertain each other.

The municipal authorities have laid on imported television games and pinball tables, racing-car simulators, indoor bowling, air-rifle and archery galleries, bars, mahjong, films from Hongkong, dances and candlelight dinners—all in an effort to keep foreigners happy.

Chinese girls have begun reappearing at the weekly dance in the International Club after months when they did not dare to come.

Though some foreigners here turn up their noses at such luxuries, there is no doubt that they have helped to ease the frustration and sense of isolation of which they have always complained.

With discretion, it is now possible to have a small circle of private Chinese friends and acquaintances, though there is still a very long way to go before real freedom of social relations will be possible.

People who understand enough Chinese can also learn much about the country by watching colour television, which is beginning to show more and more new films, often of a romantic or comic nature, with little political content.

American newsreels, old films, and cartoons are shown regularly. A Chinese woman plays Mozart and Schumann on the grand piano in the club dining room, while foreign patrons order Chinese dishes. European-style food which the older chefs have remembered and taught to younger cooks.

There are so many tourists visiting Peking now that hotels are bursting at the seams and it is nearly impossible to book a table at one of the city's famous restaurants, without several days' notice. Chinese people are eating out, too, and quick-food vans and stalls have appeared on the streets.

The streets are emblazoned with advertising hoardings pro-

claiming the virtues of Chinese face cream and Japanese watches. The authorities have been forced to issue stern warnings to officials not to accept expensive gifts from foreigners to smooth the path for trade deals.

The most common items being brought into China are cassette recorders and colour television sets; but there is also a strong demand for recordings of light music, watches, cameras, American cigarettes, sunglasses and smart clothes.

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claims the virtues of Chinese face cream and Japanese watches. The authorities have been forced to issue stern warnings to officials not to accept expensive gifts from foreigners to smooth the path for trade deals.

British flights banned to Red Sea airport

From Our Own Correspondent

Jerusalem, Oct 27

Two British charter holiday companies have been forbidden to operate flights to Eilat airport at the Red Sea resort of Eilat this winter because the airfield is in the occupied section of the Sinai desert.

The Department of Trade has issued a directive that no British aircraft may land at Eilat, a former Israeli military airfield, without first obtaining permission from Egypt and this has not been forthcoming.

Confirming the decision, a senior British Embassy official

Five released by Cuba arrested on return to US

Miami, Oct 27.—Thirty Americans paroled by President Carter on Cuba arrested on return to US.

One of the first people off the flight from Havana was Mr Melvin Bailey, who, along with Mr Thomas Watts, was arrested in May 1979, for dropping religious leaflets out of an aircraft over Cuba.

Five of the 30 prisoners who returned to the United States after being held in Cuba for a year and a half were arrested on arrival.

Although they were pale, most of the released prisoners appeared to be healthy. One of them, however, "I haven't had a beer in a year"—UPI.

Lord Carrington in Hungary

Budapest, Oct 27.—Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, was met by Mr Frigyes Fija, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, when he arrived on a visit. He will have talks with Mr Gyorgy Lazar, Prime Minister, and meet Mr János Kadar, the Communist Party leader. Trade is likely to be a main discussion topic.—UPI.

Britain dismayed by Unesco threat to free flow of news

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain will fight to return the new world information order approved by the Unesco conference in Belgrade last year after a last minute change of position by which the British delegation had withdrawn from the rest of the conference.

British objections to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation resolution, as Mr Peter Blaker, the Foreign Office minister responsible, made clear throughout, was that it threatened to interfere with the free flow of news and ideas and to "liberalise" the press.

Other Western countries shared the British concern, but evidently felt less strongly when it came to the decision. As a result, it was explained in Whitehall yesterday, Britain felt that the British delegation was out in a difficult position, with the rest of the conference and fight again another day.

As the final intervention made by the beleaguered British delegation yesterday, it was said, "the British delegation is not ready how to help the PLO and other liberation movements improve their propaganda techniques."

A final embarrasment to the United States and possibly some other Western countries was the arrival of Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, to address the conference yesterday. One of the controversial tasks in Unesco's work plan approved by the conference was to "study how to help the PLO and other liberation movements improve their propaganda techniques."

OVERSEAS

Nato formula shares Aegean between Greece and Turkey

From Mario Modiano Athens, Oct 27

The grand compromise that made it possible for Greece to join the integrated military structure of the Nato alliance last week satisfies the Greeks on the control of the space in the Aegean, while leaving the Turks largely satisfied with the command arrangements in the region.

Elements of the Rogers formula, classified "secret", which have been published in the Greek press, combined information by Greek ministers during the last week.

Parliament, allow some insight into the form of the agreement that was obtained.

The four-point formula stipulates at the outset that the two commanders will also be consulting with Nato's air force commander, south Europe in Naples about elaborating a new integrated defence system for the area.

Point Four of the agreement stipulates that so long as there is no Nato overall decision on the task force concept, interim arrangements in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea will take into consideration the inherent mobility of naval forces.

In this context, the commander-in-chief and the naval commander, south Europe, will decide in consultation with the area commanders the delegation of the operational command of available naval forces.

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was a Greek admiral, these questions are now left for renegotiation. In the meantime, under Point Three of Rogers' formula, the Greek Turkish officers command-

ing respectively Nato's Air Force Headquarters at Larissa and Izmir, will work out the details for the "full and unlimited exchange of information (Crisis-tell) between air forces under their command."

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the Greek Foreign Minister, told Parliament on Friday that "Crisis-tell" will extend 30 miles on either side of the Greek-Turkish boundaries in the eastern Aegean.

This arrangement fully conforms with the Greek insistence for the return to the pre-1974 status. Under the agreement the two commanders will also be consulting with Nato's air force commander, south Europe in Naples about elaborating a new integrated defence system for the area.

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Officials fail to catch party mood in Russia

From Michael Binyon Moscow, Oct 27

Soviet office parties appear to be getting out of hand, and the authorities are becoming seriously alarmed. Factory managers and their senior staff spend so much time drinking and carousing that meetings are postponed, directives ignored and production slumps.

Office parties, held in working hours and invariably at the State's expense, are being thrown on the slightest excuse: the sixtieth birthday of the director, the engineer's tenth wedding anniversary, the birth of a child. One enterprise in the Far East even organized a huge feast, at a cost of several thousand roubles, to mark the end of the "salted cabbage season."

When Mrs Tatyana Migunova, director of the clothing firm in Khabarovsk known as "dresses", turned 50, her employees decided to mark the occasion in a grand way.

The local trade union committee held a meeting. "I'm not against a champagne service," one member remarked, "but this is office money which we got from the regional council and the local chamber of commerce. What should we ourselves give?"

Another member murmured that this would cost rather a lot. "No sense," said another, "we'll organize a collection through the trade union." And so they did.

Contributions were solicited from various departments and shops. The party was spectacular. The director, in a splendour in the centre of the room with a red sash over her shoulder. There were speeches of congratulation. A beautifully engraved certificate was presented to her. All praised her firm's success.

No-one thought of saying that all this was not really fitting for a good Communist Party member. No one mentioned the fact that this firm had fallen badly behind in its output and there were no orders to be had in the local shops. No one remembered that the first thing the director had done when she took over was to exchange her three-room flat for a larger one that the housing authorities had made available for those in the firm who had achieved to live in the local shops.

Of course there was a scandal later on. Mrs Migunova got a sharp reprimand from the local party. But as *Sovetskaya Rossiya* pointed out in its report, it was no isolated instance.

A former director of a local food enterprise held a banquet for 70 people in the best restaurant. They all had a fine time celebrating his sixtieth birthday. The director was so pleased he had ordered every food shop in the region to send along its delicacies.

But the feast did not end so well. All were arrested, and exchanged their comfortable seats in the restaurant for the hard benches in the dock.

It is not just Khabarovsk that carries on so. A pious official from Volgograd complained to another paper a few months ago that when he put his head round the door of his boss's office, he was told sharply to get out because the office was shut: though there was drinking and pandemonium inside.

The local party secretary answered his complaining by saying it was "traditional" and would be considered a deadly insult if the factory had ignored this important birthday.



Clasp of friendship between President Brezhnev and Colonel Mengistu at Moscow airport.

Ethiopian leader expected to press Moscow to step up arms supplies

From Our Own Correspondent Moscow, Oct 27

Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, Ethiopia's military leader, began talks today in the Kremlin on the first day of an official visit which is expected to underline the close military and political ties between the Russians and one of their principal African allies.

The Ethiopian leader was met today at the airport by President Brezhnev, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the new Soviet Prime Minister, and Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister. Mr Brezhnev led the first round of talks, which almost certainly dealt with Soviet military help for Ethiopia in its struggle against the Eritrean separatists.

Two years ago the Russians signed a 20-year treaty of friendship with Ethiopia and played an important part in supplying the revolutionary regime with arms and helping it reestablish control over the Ogaden district in the war with Somalia. Colonel Mengistu will probably press Moscow to step up its arms supplies.

The Russians will want to talk about Somalia's decision to allow the Americans to use the Berbera base, built by the Russians when they had a sizable presence in the country. They may also want to discuss economic aid and the deployment of Soviet and Cuban advisers.

The Russians will probably discreetly inquire what progress Ethiopia is making towards establishing a fully communist regime.

Pledges and conditions accompany Seoul laws

From Jacqueline Reditt Seoul, Oct 27

President Chun Doo Hwan today promulgated South Korea's new constitution which automatically means the dissolution of Parliament and of existing political parties.

Mr Chun said that the new constitution, which was supported by nearly 92 per cent of the electorate in last week's referendum, was a firm foundation for a just and democratic welfare state.

The President emphasized the importance of a key provision in the new statute, which limits future presidents to a single term of office. There had been too many past revisions of the constitution by presidents wanting to hang on to power.

The new constitution comes into force a year after President Park's assassination, ending 18 years of autocratic rule.

Mr Chun said new political parties would be allowed by December but politicians would have to submit to screening by the government. This would be carried out by the new Legislative Committee for National Security, which would take over all the functions of Parliament until a new National Assembly is voted in next year.

Presidential elections are promised by next March and general elections by May.

But recent harsh verdicts brought against opponents of the regime, including the death penalty for Mr Kim Dae Jung, a former presidential candidate, make it clear that promises of a return to democracy are still conditional upon the peaceful cooperation of the Korean people.

The Government censored today all reports of the afternoon session of the military court handling appeals by Mr Kim and 23 codefendants.

During the afternoon, three former student leaders alleged that they had been tortured prior to the preliminary court martial which sentenced Mr Kim to death and the other defendants to prison sentences of between two and 20 years.

Polisario lobby criticizes Queen's Morocco visit

Rabat, Oct 27.—The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were welcomed here today by King Hassan of Morocco and a crowd estimated at 500,000.

Later they drove through the city to the royal guest house, where they will stay the night before travelling tomorrow to Marrakesh and then Casablanca.

The programme for the three-day state visit includes a visit to the Chamber of Representatives (Parliament) later today and a journey tomorrow morning to see a Save the Children Fund school for poor children.

The visit to Morocco, described in welcoming banners as "a token of Anglo-Moroccan friendship", is at the end of a tour which included Italy, Tunisia and Algeria.—Reuter.

The appeal by the organization is supported by a petition to the British Government, signed by 36 MPs, urging it to reconsider British policy towards the Western Sahara.

The committee, which is sponsored by Mr David Alton (Liberal MP for Liverpool Edge Hill), Lord Avebury, Mr Andrew Faulds (Labour MP for Warley East) and Mr Peter Hain, said the British Government should recognize the Polisario Front as the legitimate representative of the people of the Western Sahara in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

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ew immigrants make use of Hongkong amnesty

From Our Correspondent Hong Kong, Oct 27

6,592 illegal Chinese immigrants in Hong Kong applied for amnesty during the "all r" period announced by the government, which lasted from Thursday to Sunday.

Jack Chan, the Chief Secretary, said the number of immigrants who could apply was between 15,000 and 20,000.

Today all "illegals" without identity cards be repatriated, regardless of length of stay in Hong Kong. Previously those who had been tolerated if they had been to evade Chinese and Hong Kong border guards and to "base" in urban areas, have been in Hong Kong many years.

Those still unregistered are employment and employers who give jobs to people without identity cards are liable to a fine of HK\$50,000 (about £1) and a year's imprisonment.

Government officials suggest probably that the Chief Secretary's estimate was too high. A likelier explanation is many illegals suspected the registration offer was a trap for hundreds of Indians and others who arrived legally in Hong Kong over recent years but stayed and did not get identity cards are now threatened with deportation. Many tried vainly during the grace period to get identity cards, but were rejected because registration was only for Chinese illegals. Mr Hari Harilela, the president of the Council of Hong Kong Indian Associations, will appeal to the Immigration Department for a registration extension on compassionate grounds if the people concerned have been living and working in Hong Kong for a number of years on expired visas.

The Chinese authorities in Canton, who had welcomed Hongkong's abolition of the touch base indulgence, tightened security on the border, although the expected flood of last-minute illegals did not materialize.

During the registration period 1,800 people attempting to enter illegally were arrested at the border by reinforced Hongkong patrols, an increase of only 150 a day over the recent average.

Now the Hong Kong door is finally closed to Chinese illegals the Government hopes China will reduce further the number of departure visas—currently about 150—it issues every day.

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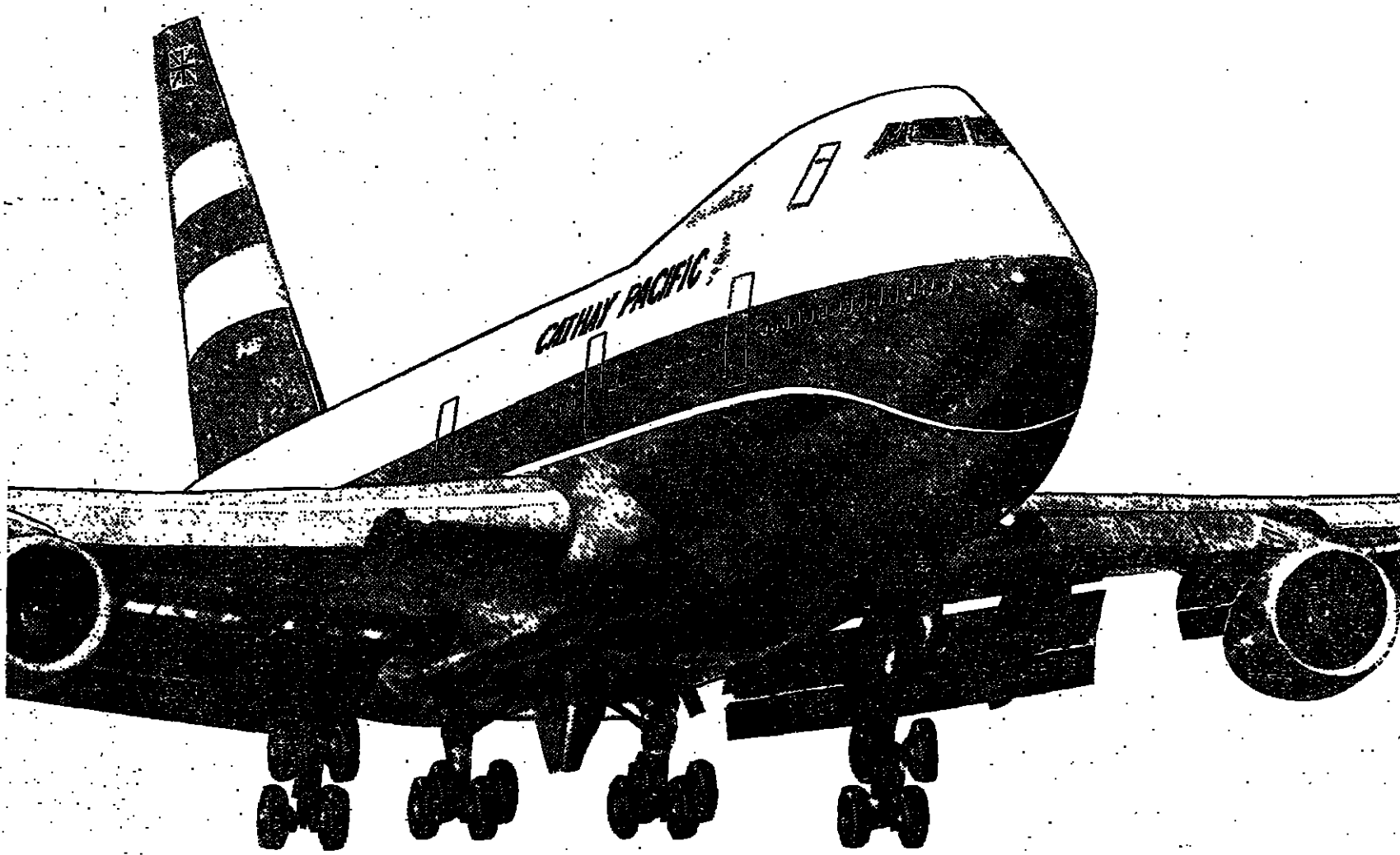
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uritus calls return Diego Garcia

hi, Oct 27.—Sir Seewoosaran, the Mauritian Prime Minister who is in Delhi, today called on the United States and Britain to return the strategic British Ocean island of Diego Garcia, now being used as an air naval base.

He said, "I think it is the duty of the United States and the United Kingdom to us and to see that this base becomes part of this", he said.

Seewoosaran's call was to be endorsed by Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Minister, who said last night that India was worried by military and "even r" build-up at Diego Garcia.

United States recently up development of its base there in response to Soviet intervention in Vietnam.—Reuter.

Fugitives enlist aid of tigers to lose their pursuers

From Richard Hughes Hong Kong, Oct 27

Hongkong's efforts to stem illegal immigration from China have revealed a curious new trade which has developed in the past six months: the sale of tiger's dung.

This, it seems, has become a successful dog repellent, the smell of which can be used to scare away bloodhounds used by Chinese Army units to track and pursue fugitives.

A group of young Chinese in Canton early this year decided to experiment with tiger-dung in their escape attempt, and it is reported, discovered that dispersion of pure tiger-dung has become common. "Pure for the rich illegals and adulterated for the poor", as the Kuomintang report claimed.

mitted to Canton after they reached Hong Kong and a secret but brisk side-business was noted by Triad gangs, who were organizing the mounting flood of illegal entrants into Hong Kong.

Cantonese security authorities recently arrested some young men caught carrying the cages of tigers in the Canton zoo. Inquiries then uncovered the business which, it has been reported by local Kuomintang agents, had expanded into tiger-dung trafficking, with rural residents of Hunan and Kwangsi provinces.

Prices reportedly ranged from the equivalent of £4 to £8 a basket. However, risky adulteration of pure tiger-dung has become common. "Pure for the rich illegals and adulterated for the poor", as the Kuomintang report claimed.

The news was swiftly trans-

elhi weighs up parliamentary rule

Our Correspondent Oct 27

Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has a conference of her party here to consider the Westminster system of government is still to the situation in or whether a more rine form of government be found.

During several hundred supporting the ruling (1) Party, she said everything laid down in the constitution need not be relevant all time.

conference ended with a resolution which for a presidential system.

Gandhi said that while countries had experimented with government and more effective forms of India the British parlia-

mentary system had persisted without even a debate. For an institution to survive and function effectively it should be constantly reviewed and examined by knowledgeable people, she said.

A paper setting out the conference aims, said: "It is necessary to consider the efficacy of the present system of government in the context of the emerging trends in the body-politic involving communal and regional repatriation and the political happenings which India went through during the short interregnum when multiple political parties joined together to govern the country under the banner of the Janata Party."

Several lawyers' groups including the Supreme Court Bar Association, have criticized the conference as a show of Congress (I) lawlessness.

Dwelling on the various systems of government, Mrs Gandhi said no system was perfect. Systems accepted as democratic by the Western world themselves had many faces and forms. The presidential system had been tried out with various countries. In the United States there was a constant war between the President and Congress. The French system also underwent its share of crisis,gress (I) lawyers.

In Western democracies, the Prime Minister continued, certain conventions had evolved on the role of the opposition. Such norms had yet to evolve in this country, and it was time they did.

The role of the opposition had been negative most of the time, she said, except for a brief period when Congress (I) was out of power.

PARLIAMENT, October 27, 1980

Emergency powers sought to free some prisoners

House of Commons

A Bill would be introduced tomorrow (Tuesday) to bring in emergency measures to relieve the criminal justice system of the burdens placed on it by the action of prison officers during their dispute, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, announced.

He said the provisions would lapse when the dispute was resolved and that discussions were far advanced on a new duty system which would eliminate the anomalies which gave rise to the dispute.

Mr Whitelaw, in a statement about the current dispute in prisons in England and Wales, said: "I should like to emphasize that this is not a dispute about pay. It arises from a claim by the Prison Officers' Association for two allowances for meal breaks."

The May Committee was set up by Mr Whitelaw to consider, among other things, the question of allowances for meal breaks. Its recommendations on pay and allowances were implemented by the Government. This was, by any standards, fair and generous treatment for the Prison Service.

A number of claims, including this present one, were examined but not supported by the May

Committee. Having found the money to pay for what May did recommend, the Government cannot accept and finance further and consequential claims built on the foundation of what was recommended and accepted.

The Prison Officers' Association have asked for arbitration. As the Prison Officers' Association themselves recognize, the matter lies outside the terms of the Services Arbitration Agreement. Nor could the Government agree to put to arbitration an issue which was considered by the May Committee last year.

As I said in my statement to the House on October 31 last year, this country has been fortunate in the men and women in the Prison Service who protect the public, to serve the courts and to care for the inmates in their charge. This duty is arduous, difficult and sometimes dangerous.

Even more seriously, prison

officers at many establishments have refused to receive prisoners remanded or sentenced by the courts. This action amounts to a deliberate and unacceptable disruption of the criminal justice system.

As a result, this morning about 3,500 prisoners who would otherwise be in prisons are now being held in police cells, many of which are unsuitable for this purpose.

The police have coped magnificently with the additional demands which have been made on them, but the number of people in their custody is approaching the limit of the available accommodation. The police are also being diverted from their primary tasks by the inevitable result of this, to place the public at risk.

The Government must do all it can to fulfil its responsibility to protect the public and ensure the functioning of the criminal justice system. The House will be aware that following the dispute, the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice, I arranged for a Circular to be issued to magistrates, asking them to consider their understanding of the problems we face.

We need to do more than that, however. Measures will be taken to provide additional accommodation with the help of the Army. I am now arranging for the new

high security prison which is nearing completion at Frankland, near Durham, to be brought immediately into use to provide emergency accommodation to relieve the pressure on police cells.

It will have governor, assistant governors and administrative and specialist staff from the Prison Service and a police presence to assist with security, but otherwise it will be manned by servicemen. We may also need to use military camps.

For these and other purposes, I shall need to ask the House to agree to immediate emergency measures to relieve the criminal justice system of some of the burdens placed on it by the prison officers' actions.

I intend to present a Bill tomorrow (Tuesday). For the convenience of prisoners, it will be made available for the public to read in the House of Commons.

The measures I seek will include a power to allow the Secretary of State to provide for the detention of prisoners in these circumstances. Other provisions will be designed to provide relief for magistrates in difficult circumstances they face.

In particular, I shall propose

that the requirement that remands be made by a court should be suspended, and that the requirement that prisoners be brought before the courts should be suspended, and that the requirement that prisoners be brought before the courts should be suspended.

I shall seek powers to order the temporary release of prisoners who have been remanded in custody or committed to prison for trial or sentence.

This is a power I would use, with every feasible safeguard, only to ensure that essential places were available in police cells and elsewhere, for dangerous offenders.

I shall also need power, for the time being, to order the early release of sentenced prisoners nearing the end of their sentences.

I shall ask for powers to suspend the requirement that prisoners be brought before the courts for trial or sentence.

All these provisions will be temporary and will be allowed to lapse when the present dispute is resolved.

In addition, the measures will include a permanent provision putting in place a power to allow the Secretary of State to provide for the detention of prisoners in these circumstances.

Mr Rees: We have to face reality

Mr Merlyn Rees, chief Opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, said: "The statement reflects the deteriorating situation in the prisons. Action is vital. The situation Mr Whitelaw faces is one which the previous Government faced in the latter part of 1976. In many prisons, the government are running the prisons; it is not the Prison Officers' Association. Something has to be done."

It was for that reason that the May Committee was set up. Its terms of reference were drawn to deal with this situation and I accept what Mr Whitelaw said. A number of claims, including this present one, were examined and not supported by the May Committee.

It was on behalf of our side, ignore that fact. The facts have not changed because we are in Opposition. The Government recommend profound changes. We need to know how the Army are to be used. Will the justification conflict with what used to be called the Army Act?

Why do we not use this situation to make long-term changes in penal reform: to reduce sentences, to reduce remission, to reduce the number of prisoners in the prisons?

The result will be to do what the Prison Officers' Association have asked for over a long time—to reduce the number of prisoners in the prisons. We will look at the Bill and do what we can to help. (Some Labour interruptions and Mr Rees said: "Why?") I will accept the results of an independent impartial tribunal on this issue.

That was the civilized way of pursuing the dispute. It was now using the bludgeon that he was now using.

Mr Whitelaw—I have accepted the overcrowding position. The pursuit of this claim, and what happened in industrial action, would have occurred whether we had done anything about overcrowding.

As for accepting the particular claim, it would cost something in the area of £10m now and a further £1m a year in the future.

Mr Whitelaw—There is a strong feeling in this House that some of the measures he proposed are more than a mere concession to a strike.

Mr Whitelaw—The proposed legislation, temporary as it would be, only amounts to a concession to a strike. It cannot be described as a concession.

It is to remove the difficult situation that has arisen in the prison cells and would not be necessary if prison officers were prepared to allow those remanded from the courts to be accommodated in the prisons. There is no confrontation on my part.

Mr Whitelaw—There is always danger. I am more worried about the situation of the Bill and would only use in very exceptional circumstances and under the most stringent safeguards.

Mr Whitelaw—The security of the Bill is what is at issue. It is not the Bill that is at issue. It is the security of the Bill that is at issue.

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Trade has improved in nearly all markets

The United Kingdom's current total trade deficit with the rest of the world so far this year was £200m, compared with a £3,500m deficit last year, according to the Office of Statistics.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Glik (Ormskirk, Lab.)—It is a relief that the Government want to enter into a policy of confrontation with the rest of the world.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Glik (Ormskirk, Lab.)—We are in this position because of the continued neglect by himself and his predecessors of the matter of the deficit.

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Blackmail allegation over prison clothes

The Government had not given in to blackmail by deciding to abolish the wearing of prison uniforms in Northern Ireland, Mr Michael Alton, Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office, said.

Mr Alton (Barnstaple, Con.)—The Secretary of State announced on October 23 that following a decision by the Government to wear prison uniforms in Northern Ireland, the Government has decided to abolish this uniform as a condition of release.

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Minister disturbed by BBC film on transplants

The new health authorities have been disturbed by a BBC film on transplants, Mr Robert Kilroy-Glik (Ormskirk, Lab.) said.

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Unthinkable to allow overspending of £180m on housing

House of Commons

It was unthinkable that the Government could countenance expenditure of £180m and do nothing about it, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

Mr Heseltine said that the Government had decided to halt the expenditure on housing in the early 1980s.

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SPORT

Racing

Stoute receives an early entree to the exclusive hundred club

By Michael Seely
Stoute's first classic success was gained when Lester Piggott rode Whisky Copse to victory in the Belton Handicap at Nottingham yesterday. This was Piggott's second win of the afternoon, the maestro having earlier captured the first division of the Woodborough Maiden Stakes on the 2-1 favourite, Spin Of A Coin. However, at Chesham Willie Carson tightened his stranglehold on the jockeys tie by landing a tri-ble Royal Heritage, leaving Stoute and John Willoughby the gap between the two is six, Carson now having ridden 158 winners as opposed to Piggott's 122.

William Elms, present trainer's grandfather, Peter Walwyn and Henry Cecil are the other men apart from Stoute to have accomplished the feat during this period. Cecil has passed the magic figure twice when champion trainer in the past two seasons. This is notable landmark in Stoute's career. The trainer was 35 last Wednesday and it is only eight years since he first took out a licence with only 15 horses in his charge. The following year he moved to Beech Hurst, his present home. That season Stoute sent out Alphonso to win the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood and Blue Cashmere the Ayr Gold Cup. Since

then the graph of his progress has followed a steady upward curve. Stoute's first classic success was gained when Lester Piggott rode Whisky Copse to victory in the Belton Handicap at Nottingham yesterday. This was Piggott's second win of the afternoon, the maestro having earlier captured the first division of the Woodborough Maiden Stakes on the 2-1 favourite, Spin Of A Coin. However, at Chesham Willie Carson tightened his stranglehold on the jockeys tie by landing a tri-ble Royal Heritage, leaving Stoute and John Willoughby the gap between the two is six, Carson now having ridden 158 winners as opposed to Piggott's 122.

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Not only did the Fifteen Furlong with the Westborough Nursery win, but Dunderave also made it a treble for Price when justifying 2-1 favourite in the Aston Park Stakes at Chesham.

The gamble of the afternoon was on St Maves in the final division of the maiden race. Owned by David Adams, a property developer from Derbyshire and trained by Bruce Hobbs, St Maves was backed down from 11-4 to 7-4. From the moment Geoff Baxby unleashed his run halfway up the straight St Maves never looked in danger of defeat, eventually winning by six lengths.

Things are starting to warm up on the National Hunt scene. Border Incident gave a promising rehearsal for the King George VI Steeplechase at Newbury on Saturday and yesterday Michael Dickinson announced that next year's big race winner, Silver Buck, would take on Diamond Back in the Terry Riddell Challenge Trophy at Wincanton on Thursday.



Loser on a winner? Piggott ahead on Spin Of A Coin, but behind in jockeys' title race.

count, who runs in the Repton Apprentices Stakes. This useful hurdler ran well when third at Galveston at Redcar and should prove too good for Galib.

The best bet at Chesham Park should be Flying Officer in the Willington Handicap. Flying Officer will be trying for his fifth victory off the race, but Guy Reed's three-year-old has won with so much in hand in his past two races that it appears he is beating the handicapper. Two

other possible Yorkshire-trained winners are Red Dancer, who runs in the final handicap, and Bonny Gold, who will be attempting to defy a 10 lb penalty for his recent victory in the East Midlands Nursery.

Spin Of A Coin, who was beaten by St Maves, has a record of 13 victories in a season for a two-year-old in the century when beaten by Doc Marten in the Caley Stakes at Stockton yesterday.

Nottingham programme

1.15 FLYING OFF HANDICAP (Apprentices: £1,005: 1m)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
3	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
4	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
5	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
6	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
7	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
8	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
9	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
10	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4

1.45 WILDERESS STAKES (2y-o: selling: £548: 5f)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
3	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
4	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
5	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
6	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
7	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
8	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
9	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
10	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4

2.15 PARK STEWARDS' HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,410: 11m)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
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2.45 REG BOYLE HANDICAP (£2,205: 7f)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
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3.00 (3.37) LUTHERAN HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,356: 1m)

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3.30 (3.37) LUTHERAN HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,356: 1m)

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2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
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3.50 (3.37) LUTHERAN HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,356: 1m)

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Stockton programme

1.15 FLYING OFF HANDICAP (Apprentices: £1,005: 1m)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
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1.45 WILDERESS STAKES (2y-o: selling: £548: 5f)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
2	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley	5-11	McLaughlin 3	4
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3.30 (3.37) LUTHERAN HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,356: 1m)

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3.50 (3.37) LUTHERAN HANDICAP (3y-o: £1,356: 1m)

1	300	Reverend A. J. V. Yardley</
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CND MARCHES BACK

Rallies may come and rallies may go. Trafalgar Square has seen a great many of them over the years. But the massive demonstration of support for the Campaign of Nuclear Disarmament on Sunday afternoon was an event of considerable political significance because it represented the revival of a movement whose activities had such an impact on British public affairs at the beginning of the 1960s. Why has this revival occurred now, and for how long can one expect it to last?

There is no single explanation for the second coming of CND and there will be no general agreement on the relative weight to be attached to the different causes. A principal factor, though, is that critical decisions now have to be taken for the next generation of Britain's nuclear weapons. The essence of Gaiskell's battle is that it was fought and won not simply on the basis of what was prudent for the Labour Party, but also on what was wise for the nation. His victory therefore had reverberations well beyond the party. Unilateral nuclear disarmament became a rejected cause, a conclusion that was confirmed by the Test Ban Treaty of 1963 which appeared to testify to the success of the unilateralist approach. Unilateralism became if not a dead at least very much a peripheral issue for a generation.

That has changed with the dispute over the Trident and Cruise missiles. The argument has been joined once again, with a public many of whom are totally uninfluenced by the previous debate and in circumstances that are different in a number of respects. One is that the international scene seems more forbidding. Twenty years ago the Soviet Union did not possess nuclear parity with the west. Now the possibility of

nuclear war seems a more real threat to life in British towns and cities, as indeed it does to life in every member country of the western alliance. Recognition of this threat is seen in the new preoccupation with civil defence, which is both an acknowledgment of the danger and to many people an inadequate safeguard against it. The threat seems all the greater in the atmosphere of heightened international tension which has followed the invasion of Afghanistan. To many people nuclear war no longer seems a mere abstract possibility against which the balance of terror provides an adequate practical safeguard.

There are other factors which have nothing to do with the intrinsic merits of the unilateralist case. One is the growing strength of the environmentalist lobby against all forms of nuclear energy. This movement has been fed by the controversy over Windscale and the episode of Three Mile Island. It is not confined to Britain; indeed, it is much more influential in such countries as Sweden and West Germany. It represents a widespread international anxiety over the threat presented to society by the increasing reliance on nuclear power for peaceful purposes; and it is natural that many of those who are disturbed by nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should be even more alarmed by decisions which imply that the western world will be relying upon it for defence for at least another generation.

Then there is the current preoccupation with public expenditure. Those who most resent cuts in spending on health, education and social welfare look at the vast sums absorbed by nuclear weapons and conclude that if this money was saved more could be spent on the schemes which they cherish. This

reaction, understandable among many people of idealistic inclination, provides an opportunity for those who wish to manipulate the unilateralist movement for their own political purposes.

Twenty years ago CND was based upon strong idealistic sentiments. So it is again now. There is a genuine belief in the struggle for power within the Labour Party. The same is happening again. CND is a cause in itself, and it represents more than itself. This makes it hard to estimate how sustained this revival will be. The movement subsided last time in the first instance because of Gaiskell's victory. But when one speaks of that victory one is in fact referring to two developments: his success in argument and in political organization. The consequences of that victory were then sealed by the Test Ban Treaty.

This leads to the conclusion that CND's prospects now will be much influenced by political developments within Britain and by progress towards international arms limitation. The election of a Labour Party leader of unilateralist persuasion, and the consolidation of the power of the left within the party, would do much to strengthen the movement. An agreement between the superpowers would do much to weaken it. Indeed, successive disappointments over arms limitation, and the feeling in many western countries that the major powers have been allowing the arms race to take its course, have been an important factor in the rise of CND and other protest movements. The ratification of Salt Two and agreement on the limitation of theatre nuclear weapons in Europe would do more than anything else to change this trend by doing something to meet the anxieties on which it is based.

EMERGENCY IN THE PRISONS

Any legislation hurried through Parliament in an emergency needs to be scrutinized particularly carefully to ensure that it does not go further than is absolutely necessary, both in the scope of the exceptional powers created, and in the adverse effect it may have on individual civil liberties. The Imprisonment (Temporary Provisions) Bill, which is to be put to the House of Commons today, with the intention that it complete all its stages before going to the House of Lords tomorrow, is, on the whole, a firm but reasonable response to the difficulties which have arisen from the prison officers' industrial action. A point had been reached when the Home Secretary had to act.

The powers which the Home Secretary is asking Parliament to grant fall into two main categories. The first affects the Army and its facilities. The nature of prison officers' duties which involves close and continuing personal contact with prisoners within the prison confines. So far Mr Whitelaw has indicated that he intends using Army personnel to perform such duties as guarding the perimeter of prisons, running switchboards, and carrying out clerical functions. For that they are suited. The Home Secretary has also raised the possibility that Army accommodation may have to be used to

cope with overflow prisoners. That would bring soldiers into a much closer relationship with prisoners. That may be necessary, but it would impose a much more difficult duty on the troops.

The second batch of powers sought by Mr Whitelaw which affect the administration of criminal justice are complementary to the first. They are designed to relieve the conditions which have necessitated recourse to the Army. Some of the measures in the Bill have long been urged by penal reformers as a means of reducing the numbers of people in prison. The restrictions on imprisoning fine defaulters, for instance, now being put forward as a temporary expedient, could become permanent. Reducing the length of sentences by releasing some offenders nearing the end of their term of imprisonment would also conform to the widely held opinion that many prisoners were being kept in custody for far too long. Obviously, those released under that dispensation in the Bill should not include any who were thought to be dangerous to society. The Home Secretary's power to release, on what amounts to executive bail, prisoners remanded or committed for trial in custody, will, if those so released behave properly and turn up for trial, support the view that bail is sometimes unnecessarily refused by the courts.

In one respect, however, the Bill gives cause for disquiet. It provides that magistrates would have the power to further remand a prisoner in custody in his absence. Under existing law, prisoners on remand normally come before the courts every week, when they are either released on bail, remanded in custody for a further period, or committed for trial. This is designed to allow a prisoner to renew his application for bail, and permits magistrates to deal with any new factors that may have arisen in the meantime, including, although rarely, allegations of ill-treatment. The regular appearance by an unconvicted accused is an ancient and necessary safeguard against injustice and abuse. The law permits exceptions in limited circumstances in cases where the accused does not personally attend court but is legally represented. It is essential that the safeguard of being represented should be incorporated into the emergency Bill. How else could a court be apprised of those matters which the accused wishes to bring before it? If he cannot do that, there is no point in calling his name every week only for him to be further remanded in custody. If, as appears to be the case in some prisons, access by a prisoner to his lawyers is being denied, then the only answer may be to give the Army the additional task of escorting prisoners to court.

DISCONTENT IN ZAMBIA

resident Kaunda has given a rather unconvincing explanation for clamping curfews on all Zambia's cities on the eve of its twentieth independence anniversary celebrations, after a riot-out with an armed insurrectionary band. He accuses retortia's motives for destabilizing Zambia have some connexion with its troops in the apricot strip, which are fighting wapo guerrillas based in ngola. The South Africans relled Zambian territory recently and tried to have talks ith the Zambian command, hich refused. But it is hard to se how promoting a coup in ambia could ease South Africa's problems.

South Africa is negotiating for the role and impartiality in the United Nations in the opposed elections in Namibia id demanding the exclusion of wapo forces from the proposed aural zone along the Namibia omier which is to include part the Caprivi strip. Making ouble for Dr Kaunda seems relevant to that admittedly rny problem. Even if there are a coup in Zambia, South Africa would still be expected the United Nations and the estem powers to hold "free id fair" elections in Namibia, terference in Zambia would

seem to weaken South Africa's argument that its hands are cleaner than other peoples', and might strengthen support in the United Nations for sanctions if the elections are delayed.

It may be tempting to President Kaunda to wheel in the racist whipping-boys. But he also want out of his way to exonerate President Mobutu of Zaire from setting mercenaries on him. The report that some of the gunmen were Katangese might imply that Zaire was cooperating with South Africa. In fact, Katangese bandits have troubled the copperbelt for years.

A clue to the President's thinking may lie in his statement that only three members of Zambia's forces were involved in the abortive coup. This seems a warning to malcontents that he still has the Army on his side; so long as it is, no coup can succeed. The question remains what tribe or faction does wish to overthrow the Kaunda regime.

There is deep discontent. The economic crisis, which many hoped would abate once Zambia came under black rule, has dragged on. Zambia is short of foreign exchange and import controls have emptied the shops. Unemployment—Zambia has a larger urban sector than most African countries—is severe. For

years Zambia had to accommodate the unruly Zimbabwe guerrillas; some remain. Violent crime has soared. In August, the home affairs minister reported that in the first six months of 1980 felonies increased fourfold, robberies fivefold. Last month the official *Times of Zambia* called for a curfew or state of emergency. It now has one, but not ostensibly for crime control. Meanwhile the Government is reported to have imported arms and armoured vehicles from Russia.

President Kaunda may be more worried at the disintegration of the country—more than insurrection. He has no personal rival. It is Unip, the ruling party, rather than the President that is unpopular. Indeed, Dr Kaunda has some times dodged behind Unip's unpopularity no less than behind South Africa's or Rhodesia's when protest became pressing. He is now moving Zambia into the left-of-centre "revolutionary" Africa grouping. Basically he shows himself a far more successful politician than administrator. He has failed to impose efficiency, or his own moral standards, on his administration. Yet efficient and clean administration is what Zambians now above all demand of him.

The White Paper on Young Offenders may restore the ego of those magistrates who have thought their dignity slighted, but it will achieve no other aim. One does not advance by going backwards. Would it not be better if we fully implemented the 1969 Act and if we were then seen to be in need of revision to amend it? The lack of funds ought not to deter us. If half the money lost by tax avoidance were spent on crime avoidance we might well be getting somewhere.

Yours faithfully,
JACK ASHLEY,
House of Commons, SW1,
October 24.

Questions over monetarist strategy

From Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP for Haverham (Conservative)

Sir, Nearly a year has passed since I suggested in your columns (November 17, 1979) that a record minimum leading rate of 17 per cent struck at the heart of the monetarist strategy. The balance of budgetary, fixed and monetary policies has been effectively upset.

"Hor" money which we do not want has artificially pushed up the sterling exchange rate, damaged the competitiveness of our industry and increased unemployment. At the same time the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement has risen by a massive £2,000m or more a year just to service more costly public debt and to pay our additional unemployment and social security benefits. And still the money supply figures, for what they are worth, have gone on rising.

While I welcome the general views expressed in your leading article of

October 25, I do not believe that we can afford to wait even a week for an indication of what next month's figures are going to show. That is to rely yet again on a statistical gamble. On the assumption on which the Government have hitherto relied the one downward move to 16 per cent was either wrong or manifestly inadequate.

ICI are strong enough to survive the first quarterly loss in their history. Other companies are not, and too many have already gone to the wall. A significant reduction in interest rates is required immediately if we are not to sink into further unnecessary recession.

As the Prime Minister said in 1977, the Conservative approach was put very simply by a Chinese philosopher centuries ago: "Govern a great nation" he is counselled, "as you would hook a small fish." Don't overdo it.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY RIPPON,
House of Commons, SW1,
October 27.

How West should react to Soviet fear

From Sir John Lawrence

Sir, As an old Moscow hand I would like to congratulate Michael Binyon on his reporting of the Soviet Union. In particular his article in *The Times* for October 22 on "how the Russians see the world closing in" on them supplies the missing piece in much of our thinking about foreign policy.

I yield to none in thinking that Soviet aggression must be stopped and do not believe this is quite so difficult as is generally supposed. But there is a hidden danger. The leaders of the Soviet Union are running scared and that ought to scare us. If they feel they are being driven into a corner, they may lash out. The Soviet Union is still a super-power, even if one that is past its peak.

I do not believe that the Soviet leaders anticipate an attack from the West. They are helped by the Chinese, but they might convince their subjects that the threat is real. And I am convinced that the leaders are frightened by their internal situation. The ideology of Marxism is "exhausted" in the sense that throughout eastern Europe—what ever may be the case elsewhere—neither those who preach Marxism, nor those who hear it, believe in Marxism. The social system founded by Lenin is bankrupt.

The economy is falling behind and there is no cure that does not involve dismantling something that is deemed essential by Marxist Leninists. Let us hope that there will be plenty of bread and potatoes in Russia this winter. It is certain that there will be a serious lack of meat, vegetables, fruit and dairy products.

The technological gap between the Soviet Union and the West is widening rather than closing. Industrial production barely keeps up with the increase of population, but to introduce new methods involves opening up free exchanges with the more advanced Western countries; and that would be dangerous. The colossal sea fleet of the USSR is opening to the West, whether in the form of foreign broadcasts, free trade unions or free exchanges between scientists and technologists, makes this ever clearer.

Eventually the Soviet Union will evolve into something very different but at present we cannot afford the evolution, except for the worse. Interference from outside could drive the present Soviet leaders to a dangerous desperation and it could even rally the Russians round the Kremlin's leadership.

I am not pleading for a soft policy. So long as the Soviet Government fails to honour the obliga-

tions it has already undertaken under the Helsinki agreement and so long as Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan, pressure must be maintained and I suspect, increased. But at the same time it should be made clear to the Soviet leaders that if and when they join the comity of nations, everything will be done to smooth their path, including arms reductions that go much further than anything yet contemplated.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LAWRENCE,
24 St Leonard's Terrace, SW3,
October 24.

From Mr Patrick Wall, MP for Hammersmith (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Binyon's outstanding article (October 22) on the outlook in the Soviet Union is of particular interest at a time when their military might is increasing at an ever-accelerating rate.

The crisis point will arrive when a dictatorship not only feels threatened, but knows that its economy and manpower are both failing and that it cannot even feed its own people.

At sea the expansion programme of the USSR is increasing, not only in nuclear submarines but aircraft carriers, battle cruisers and nuclear-powered ice-breakers, which will enable it to challenge Nato on the surface as well as under the seas.

On land the Soviet Army outnumbers Nato by some three to one in both armour and artillery. In the air the greatly increased fighter bomber and helicopter forces as well as the Backfire bomber and other recently developed aircraft create a further threat. New ICBMs, anti-satellite and anti-missile devices, as well as chemical and bacteriological weapons, complete the picture.

The danger point may well be reached when the new leadership takes over in the Kremlin. The next United States presidential election year, 1984, may well prove the best period to strike; unless events spark off aggression in Poland or in the Middle East before then.

The only hope of avoiding World War III is to show the USSR that aggression cannot pay. To achieve this the present balance, which is tilting ever more against Nato, must be reversed whatever the cost. Time is not on our side and defence must have first priority.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK WALL,
(Chairman, Military Committee, House of Commons Assembly),
House of Commons.

The Romans in Britain

From Sir Horace Cutler

Sir, I fancy that greatlins may have altered the sense of the end of Mr Don's letter (October 23) but in any case I must correct one misconception.

I did not leave the auditorium during the preview of *The Romans in Britain*: I stayed to the bitter end and witnessed the desultory and desirous applause.

That I did not care for the play is well known, but it is untrue that my antipathy was to only a portion of it. Taken as a whole, anything less "brilliant and stimulating" would be hard to imagine.

Be that as it may, I am not concerned with the issues of artistic standards, honesty, indecency or dramatic politicking in themselves. My purpose was to question whether any production so lacking in redeeming features (and grossly offensive to boot) ought to be staged at public expense.

It is clear beyond a peradventure (and I have had a heavy postbag) that a large majority of the public is opposed to this use of public funds. Fashionable though it may be to pander to minority tastes and wishes, we have still not reached the stage in civic affairs where no account need be taken of widely-held views.

Accordingly it is inevitable that the GLC should consider its position. I doubt whether anyone would seriously suggest that one lapse of judgment condemn the National Theatre to eternal financial limbo; but short rations often clear the head.

Yours faithfully,
HORACE CUTLER,
The County Hall, SE1,
October 23.

From Dr Oswyn Murray
Sir, As the only reviewer able to rub together two civil words on the subject of Howard Brenton's *The Romans in Britain*, I am impelled to speculate on this strange to unstrange and especially on the hysterical tone adopted by professional critics, not mere Whiteboused London councillors.

Can it be a gigantic conspiracy on the part of critics and producers, orchestrated by Mel Brooks to fill London's empty theatres with plays pronounced so unappealing that everyone flecks to them? Or is it some deep vendetta against the National Theatre? Or is it a neo-fascist attitudes beneath the surface left-wing orthodoxies? Or can it be that the critics feel their virility threatened by all this beautiful male nudity? Would the reaction have been different if there had been any female nudes in the production?

This is a play, a piece of unreality, and should be judged in terms of what it tries to do. It is a failure. It is a brave and interesting one. How many shipwrecks have there been on the reef of British myth, and how few successes!

In the end we may class the play with Kipling's Puck, Doughty's *Don in Britain*, or Charles Williams's *Arthurian*, rather than with the Purcell-Dryden *King Arthur* or David Jones's *In Parenthesis*; but we should at least do Mr Brenton the courtesy of discussing him in these terms.

Yours faithfully,
OSWYN MURRAY,
Balliol College,
Oxford,
October 23.

Medical school's future

From the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London

Sir, Mr Ennals (October 27) states that I have asked the USSR that aggression cannot pay. To achieve this the present balance, which is tilting ever more against Nato, must be reversed whatever the cost. Time is not on our side and defence must have first priority.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK WALL,
(Chairman, Military Committee, House of Commons Assembly),
House of Commons.

I could not have given any such assurance because decisions about the future of medical schools are not taken by the Vice-Chancellor but by the Senate and Court of the university. I told the meetings which were convened at the House that I was there to listen to representations and would convey them to the relevant bodies of the university. That I did not do so was a factor which would be taken into account. It was taken into account both by the senior medical committee and the planning committee of the university in making their recommendations.

Mr Ennals, as a former Secretary of State, will appreciate that when a pressure group fails to get its way the next move is to create doubt and dismay about the recommendations. That he has done and that is what in this letter I am trying to dispel.

Yours etc,
NOEL ANNAN,
University of London,
Senate House,
Malet Street, WC1,
October 27.

Custodial attitudes

From Mr Gareth Williams, QC

Sir, As a consequence of the industrial action taken by the Prison Officers' Association, magistrates are urged not to commit defendants to custody if at all possible, whether by way of sentence or by way of refusal of bail.

Many of those sentencing in the Crown Courts would welcome the power of imposing a sentence of imprisonment which would be served in part, with the remainder in suspension. Section 47(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 would allow this where the sentence is one of not less than six months nor more than two years. There are a substantial number of offenders for whom such a sentence would be eminently suitable.

Though the Act is three years old, the Order implementing s.47(1) has never been introduced by the Government. Why not?

Yours faithfully,
GARETH WILLIAMS,
Farrar's Buildings,
Temple, EC4.

Silent bliss

From Mr Stephen Coulson

Sir, As vergar of a parish church for over three years, it was my pleasure to witness a variety of circumstances for the solemnization of holy matrimony. I have seen weddings take place cheerfully, ruefully, shyly, extravagantly, earnestly and even lethargically. Tardily must rate as one of the most common adverbs, but none so much fun as the wedding that takes place chaotically.

I pray, though, that all the participants will have remained to their partner as I do to you. Yours sincerely, faithfully and truly,
STEPHEN COULSON,
St Edmund Hall,
Oxford,
October 21.

ransplants dilemma

From Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP for Wake-on-Trent, South (Labour)
The Chairman of the BBC, Mr George Howard (October 24) adds the main charge against the *Woman's Programme* on brain ash. While *Panorama* had every right to mount a programme on this subject, it had no right to give the impression that kidneys were being taken from donors in Britain

who might still have been alive. But that is what it did. Consequently millions of people will remember the details of the programme but the message that people are alive today who had been categorized as "dead".

There is no doubt, however, that none of the four American cases used in the programme would have been considered dead under the British criteria. That is why the programme misled. That is why

kidney sufferers may die as potential donors are scared off and the shortage of kidneys becomes more acute. And that is why the BBC and the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services should take urgent remedial action to reassure a seriously worried public.

Yours sincerely,
JACK ASHLEY,
House of Commons, SW1,
October 24.

Tackling juvenile crime

From Mr Graham Don

Sir, The current squabble between magistrates and social workers is both unseemly and unhelpful. The Children and Young Persons Act 1969 undoubtedly diminished the powers of the Juvenile Court and elevated the role of the Children's Officer. But the Act was intended to benefit the children and not to put magistrates or local government officers in a surely irrelevant.

The Juvenile Court was founded in 1908, but by 1969 it was clear that, whatever its merits, it was not achieving the success hoped for. The need for change was widely recognized. Nor is it fair to condemn the 1969 Act when many of its provisions have never been brought into force.

The White Paper on Young Offenders may restore the ego of those magistrates who have thought their dignity slighted, but it will achieve no other aim. One does not advance by going backwards.

Would it not be better if we fully implemented the 1969 Act and if we were then seen to be in need of revision to amend it? The lack of funds ought not to deter us. If half the money lost by tax avoidance were spent on crime avoidance we might well be getting somewhere.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM DON,
14 Celina Close,
Buckinghamshire,
October 24.

No power to charm

From Mr L. G. Creasey

Sir, How true Dr Oswyn Scrogg's comments were in your article on the sponsored arts (October 20).

I recently perceived a way of creating income and increasing membership for the British Museum by producing a most useful and colourful catalogue which offered replicas and reproductions (copper, bronze, stone, ceramics, glass and textiles) of their more obviously usable decorative objects d'art. Members were to receive these pieces at a preferential price. I suggested that the museum should get the entire benefit of the profit margin generated in the sale of these goods.

Amazingly, one of the clearing banks missed the concept completely and suggested that I go to my local branch and borrow the money myself.

Are the banks' needs greater than the museum's? Yours faithfully,
LESLIE CREASEY,
Countrywide Promotions,
121 London Road,
Knebworth,
Hertfordshire.

New York • Paris
Genève • Monte-Carlo

Ambassadeurs
 1000000 Place - London
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 1000000 - Party Planners - 01.2293666

was involved, and Dr. Gault decided to look further into the way lizards regulate their temperature. He decided that when the other two methods of cooling are not sufficient to cope with the heat, the oesophagus expands to make contact with a network of blood vessels and nerves that line the neck. Although she has looked for

As the temperature of the surrounding water increased, careful comparison between the groups showed that the oesophagus had begun to pulsate slowly in the untreated birds. Then, as the temperature rose a few degrees more, all birds began to pant. Usually, gular flutter began, start-

Source: Science, October 34, 1980.
E. Nature Times News Service
1980.

He had become Curate at
Glasgow in 1938 and was then
from 1939 to 1949: Rector at
Gillingham, Glasgow. He had
been appointed in

Glasgow and Colloway in 1974. m
 He had published a history m
 of the Episcopal Church in m
 Scotland in 1959, a revised m
 edition appearing in 1976. He m
 married in 1940, Margaret. m
 Baker McCree. They had one m
 son and one daughter. h

Guinea-Some former leading member of Guinea-Bissau's long Marxist Party has continued outside in the colonial Portuguese colony, it has been reported in Lisbon.

Les Ambassadeurs
10 **5, Hamilton Place - London**
from 15.10 to 30.10.1988
Elizabeth Anson - Party Planners - 01.22

ing at a noticeable temperature in the birds could not indicate the cause of the problem.

Dr. Gaunt, a senior scientist of the center, said the birds appeared as far as possible to be healthy and their temperature was not noticeably elevated. The cooling mechanism and their temperature were "the same as the other birds," he said.

In normal cases, the surrounding air is cooled by the birds' breathing and the evaporation of water from the body. The evaporation of water seems to be "the only way birds can cool themselves," he said.

Source: Science, Vol. 210, 445.

© Nature Times 1980.

D from Edinburgh later gained a Curate at Glasgow and was then an Rector in 1893. He had married in 1840, Margaret Baker, McEwen. They had one son and one daughter.

in 1936, B.D. from Edinburgh. He had published a history of the Episcopal Church in Scotland in 1950. A revised edition appeared in 1976. He died in 1979. He was then married in 1940. Margaret Baker Morris. They had one son and one daughter.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

From the
Punjab to the
Western Isles,
page 19

Stock Markets
FT Ind 496.1 up 0.6pts
FT Gls 71.71 up 0.16pts

Sterling
\$2.4375 down 25pts
Index 78.9 unchanged

Dollar
Index 85.1 up 0.4
DM 1.8797 up 142pts

Gold
\$635.50 up 63

Money
3-mth sterling 16 1/4-16 1/2
3-mth Euro \$ 14 1/4-14 1/2
6-mth Euro 14 1/4-14 1/2

IN BRIEF

567m loss by GM is America's worst

General Motors Corporation's 567m (£236m) in the third quarter of the year, a record for any American company. The loss amounted to \$1.95 a common share. In the same quarter last year, GM, the world's biggest car maker, net \$21.4m, or six cents per share. The loss in the third quarter falls 10 per cent from \$13.50m in 1979, the company said.

GM's loss for the first nine months of the year totals \$824m, \$2.86 per share, compared with \$470m, or 58.8 cents a share, in the same period of 1979.

Liberty shares
Peter Cadbury, who has been offered an unpaid offer of his Westward vision holdings, from Bank, has had approaches at least two other times. One is believed to have come from within Westward vision. Mr Cadbury has 10 voting shares and his has 5,000.

Zimbabwe stake
Western Engineering Industries to take a 51 per cent stake in a new company in which called NEI Cochrane, the biggest company in Zimbabwe making cars and pressure vessels and annual turnover is £5.5m. Holding will cost about

Liability
outstanding liability of £100m to the Department of Industry is now a £23m, with interest at 11.5 per cent a year and repayment due on December 31. A parliamentary reply said that £22m was repaid by company on August 8.

Pont cleared
Federal Trade Commission in Washington has ordered dismissal of charges that a Fiat Company sought to poison the titanium dioxide. It says Dr. Pont's were legally based on science and growth oppor-

Chinese crisis
an, which has not paid a off its foreign bank debts 1979, facing a financial crisis of \$500m (£250m) package put up by major and a grant of new funds a IMF. It is not known or the country's 200 other will support the rescue

Recall 245
scv Ferguson has recalled employees at its Brantford, a foundry, ready to a production on Nov. 3. The company's plants in United States and have been closed since 31.

Street down
Dow Jones industrial closed at 931.74, down on Wall Street yesterday. SDR rates 1.29811, SDR was 0.531076.

PRICE CHANGES

new Secs	14p to 14 1/2p	Electronics	23p to 28 1/2p
Stores	4p to 5 1/2p	Farwell Elect.	24p to 28 1/2p
Grp	21p to 21 1/2p	Kewick Grp	20p to 22 1/2p
Dea	43p to 50p	Sainsbury Jp	20p to 26 1/2p

Julian	2p to 28 1/2p	Newman Tanks	4p to 4 1/2p
burg, Plat	10p to 15 1/2p	Shed Trans	4p to 4 1/2p
Fern	5p to 22 1/2p	Thames Sulph	25p to 15 1/2p
C	10p to 24p	Weeks Petrol	10p to 41 1/2p

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buy	sell	buy	sell
a \$	2.15	2.16	Norway Kr	12.52
a \$	33.90	32.80	Portugal Esc	125.40
a \$	72.75	72.75	South Africa R	2.12
a \$	2.93	2.93	Spain Ptas	168.00
a \$	16.80	16.80	Sweden Kr	10.69
a \$	8.50	8.50	Switzerland Fr	4.28
a \$	10.10	10.10	USA \$	1.50
a \$	4.75	4.75	Yugoslavia Dnr	61.00
a \$	112.00	102.00		
a \$	12.85	12.19		
a \$	22.40	2180.00		
a \$	547.00	522.00		
a \$	5.14	4.91		

Management and unions protest over threat to chemical industry

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Britain's chemical industry is being "priced" out of many export markets by the soaring pound, and the industry's strength in the United Kingdom economy and its international competitiveness is gravely threatened.

This stark and uncompromising assessment has been spelled out by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a letter from the Chemicals Economic Development Committee, whose members include some of the industry's top executives and senior trade union leaders.

On the committee are Mr John Harvey Jones, a deputy chairman of ICI, which last week announced a £10m loss on its operations in the third quarter of this year, citing the devaluation of sterling as a major factor; and Mr David Warburton, national officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union, who has been among union leaders campaigning for measures to counter the threat to the chemical industry.

The "tough" warning from chemical industry leaders coincided with a similar appeal from Mr Alec Smith, leader of Britain's clothing industry workers, who in a speech yesterday urged the Government to take action to counter the threat to the clothing industry from the devalued pound.

Sir Geoffrey has been given a warning by the Chemicals Committee that the industry foresees a very large fall in its export business once its present orders are completed.

MacGregor supports steel quotas move

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Further government intervention in the European steel industry would be the inevitable consequence of attempts by West Germany to frustrate efforts by the EEC Commission to impose mandatory controls on production levels, Mr Ian MacGregor, British Steel Corporation chairman, warned yesterday.

After the weekend Council of Ministers meeting in Luxembourg, the Commission's plans to invoke the previously unused powers of Article 58 of the Treaty of Paris have been delayed. He suggested that the Commission should meet in Brussels tomorrow and another ministerial meeting the following day.

West Germany wanted special steel production excluded from the production quota regime, but other Community states, especially the United Kingdom, insisted that special steels be included. The basis of a compromise which would encompass special steels has been hampered over for consideration at tomorrow's meeting.

"We have a serious problem in the European steel industry, and the danger is that the Germans might win the battle on resisting Article 58 but in so doing could lose the war", Mr MacGregor said in an interview yesterday. He suggested that the Commission would have to become involved even more deeply in the problems of the steel industry.

Fair trading query over code of practice for actuaries

By Margaret Stone

Talks are being held between the Institute of Actuaries (along with its Scottish counterpart, the Faculty) and the Office of Fair Trading about whether or not the actuaries' existing code of practice and professional conduct is in the public interest.

The two sections of the actuaries' code of practice which appear to be regarded as unacceptable are, first, the way in which actuaries actually seek their business, and second, the corporate form in which actuaries may work together.

Unlike certain other professional services, the existing registered code was not exempted under Schedule 1 to the Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1976.

This means that the actuaries have to defend their existing arrangements to the satisfaction

Chancellor admits to MPs that underlying growth rate is now running at 19% annually

Money supply is double Government's target

By Melvyn Westlake

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, admitted to a Parliamentary select committee last night that the underlying rise in the money supply since February has been nearly double the Government's target.

It had increased at an annual rate of 19 per cent, even after allowing for some distortions related to the removal of the "corset" controls on bank deposits.

However, the Chancellor told the all-party House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee that the situation would improve in coming months, and there was no case for changing the basic strategy.

Sir Geoffrey implied that the growth target for the money supply this year of 7 to 11 per cent, was unlikely to be met. This target would be modified next month when the Government came to review its policies for monetary control.

In his statement to the committee, the Chancellor said that the underlying

growth rate of sterling M3—the measure of money supply that the Government seeks to control—during the six months to September may have been about 13 per cent a month—or 19 per cent at an annual rate.

This estimate of the underlying increase is higher than many other informed guesses. The actual increase in recent months, before allowing for distortions (caused by bank loans being channelled in ways that evaded the "corset" controls, but subsequently counted in the money supply) was around 23 per cent at an annual rate.

The Chancellor had been invited to appear before the committee, which is examining the Government's monetary policy, after the surge in monetary growth this summer.

This surge occurred shortly after Sir Geoffrey's last appearance before the committee, when he told MPs that money supply was "probable" under control. MPs felt that the Chancellor should be invited to return and explain what had gone wrong.

Sir Geoffrey said the most important single factor in the acceleration in monetary growth had been a jump in the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR). This would be much smaller during the rest of the financial year than in the past six months, he declared.

If private borrowers could rely less on the banks and more on share and debenture issues, the source of necessary finance monetary growth would slow down further.

The Chancellor would not predict the likely size of the PSBR for the whole of the current financial year, but reminded MPs of the action that had been taken to keep public expenditure under control. He was pressed to show how the Government could possibly expect the PSBR to fall next year as planned in the medium term financial strategy.

One of the committee's advisers has suggested that the PSBR in the 1981-82 financial year will be around £14,000m, about twice what the Government had been aiming at.

The questioning did not elicit a clear answer on this point. The Chancellor did give some indication that he expected pay rises in the public sector to be about 8 per cent. It was asked whether increases in pay for public sector employees would have to be consistent with the 6 to 10 per cent target for money supply growth next year and agreed that it would.

He said that although the present recession was painful to industry, any alternative policy would ultimately be worse. He blamed the present difficulties of industry on the world recession, the high exchange rate for sterling and the failure to make necessary adjustments in the past to raise productivity.

The strength of sterling reflected a combination of factors, many having their origin in events abroad. Sir Geoffrey said. The present rate of sterling was the product of the balance of supply and demand in the market and not one the Government had sought as a matter of policy. But the Government did not have the option of managing the rate at some desired level.

West Germany urged to give Deutsche mark free rein

From Peter Norman, Bonn, Oct 27

West Germany's five leading economic research institutes today urged the federal bank in Frankfurt to stop intervening to support the Deutsche mark on foreign exchange markets and accept if necessary a temporary devaluation of the currency to create conditions for a more expansionary money supply policy.

This advice, contained in the institutes' autumn report on the West German and world economies, came to the attention of the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, which is intervening within the European Monetary System to support the mark against the French franc. It sold \$15.4m at the official midday foreign exchange fixing in Frankfurt to limit the dollar's climb against the mark.

The five institutes from West Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Kiel and Essen predicted an upturn in the mark in the longer term. Germany's low inflation rate and the prospect of a drop in the country's current account balance of payments deficit to perhaps DM20,000m (€3,200m) by the end of the year, forecast DM30,000m this year should influence markets and result in a

nominal revaluation of the currency over 1981 they said.

But Professor Norbert Walter of the Institute for World Economics at the University of Kiel told a press conference in Bonn that a short-term mark devaluation would be acceptable because it would permit the German central bank to ease the monetary breaks and bring down interest rates.

The five institutes are not government bodies but they have considerable prestige and tend to set the tone for the annual round of soul-searching on economic affairs that affects West Germany every autumn and winter.

In their report the institutes said the federal bank should be freed from its dilemma of having to keep monetary policy restrictive to sustain the exchange rate. This policy had resulted in money supply growth falling below the level needed to maintain an optimum degree of economic activity.

Since July, West Germany's key monetary indicator—the central bank money stock—has been increasing at a rate below the 5 to 7 per cent growth target fixed in the country's monetary policy with optimum economic growth and control of inflation.

The institutes said the federal bank must fix a higher and more definite money supply goal for next year and recommended a 6.5 per cent rise in central bank money stock on a year-to-year basis and an average annual increase of 6 per cent for 1981.

The institutes also urged both sides of industry to settle for modest wage increases next year and stressed that it was essential for the government to control public spending and limit its borrowing needs. However, they warned against Bonn attempting any abrupt "wonder cure" for the German economy.

The institutes' specific forecasts for 1981 were predictably gloomy. Unemployment is expected to increase, particularly in the first half of next year, so that on average 1.1 million will be out of work in 1981, bringing the average unemployment rate up to 5 per cent from 4 per cent this year.

In real terms there will be no increase in gross national product in 1981 compared with this year, after a slowdown in growth rate to two per cent in 1980 from 4.5 per cent last year.

In the first half of next year Germany's gross will drop by a real 1 per cent compared with the first half of this year but in the second half of 1981 there should be a year-to-year growth of 1.5 per cent.

The rate of "consumer price" increases is expected to drop to 4 per cent with year from 5 per cent in 1980 with the rate of increase slowing during 1981.

On the crucial question of Germany's balance of payments, Professor Walter said that improvement had already been made during the early summer this year and, although the expected drop in the current account deficit might not appear too dramatic, it would coincide with a worsening of the payments position of most of Germany's trading rivals.

The institute report is hedged with uncertainties. The first assumes that the Gulf war will not last too long, that oil prices will rise next year by no more than the world's general rate of inflation, that the world trade will tend to stagnate until late 1981 and that most countries will be less determined to defend their exchange rates as unemployment rises.

Plessey awarded £150m contract for UK defence communications

By Kenneth Owen, Technology Editor

A £150m-plus initial production order for a new tactical communications network for the British Army and the Royal Air Force in Germany—claimed to be the largest single United Kingdom defence communications contract yet awarded—was announced yesterday by Plessey, the electronics group.

Total value of production contracts for the system over the next few years could amount to about £500m. Plessey is acting as prime contractor and will receive slightly over half the contract sum, with the remainder going to a group of subcontractors including Standard Telephones & Cables, Marconi Space & Defence Systems, BICC General Cables, Alcatel, Marshall of Cambridge, and Messian.

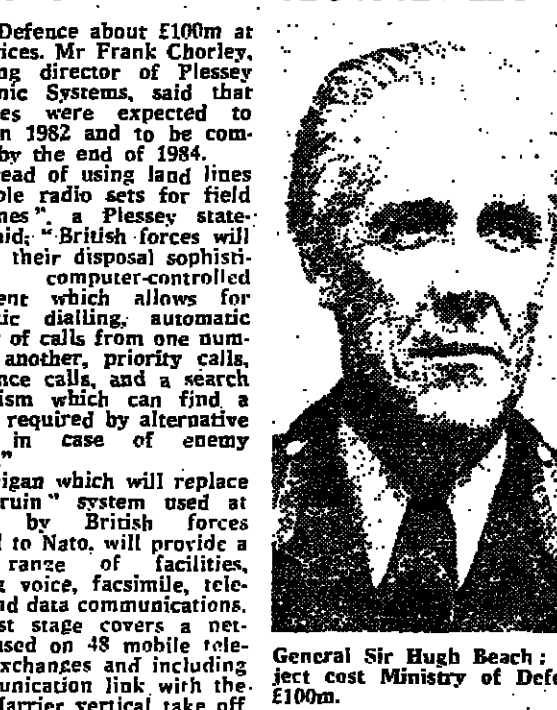
The production commitment comes after a seven-year period in which the system, known as Parmigian, was developed by the same industrial team. Development costed £1,000m (€160m) and the initial production order is expected to create over 400 further jobs and to consolidate existing employment for several hundred more.

General Sir Hugh Beach, Master General of the Ordnance, said yesterday that Parmigian development had cost the Ministry of Defence about £100m at 1980 prices. Mr Frank Chorley, managing director of Plessey Electronic Systems, said that deliveries were expected to begin in 1982 and to be completed by the end of 1984.

"Instead of using land lines or simple radio sets for field telephones", a Plessey statement said, "British forces will have at their disposal a sophisticated, computer-controlled equipment which allows for automatic dialling, automatic transfer of calls from one number to another, priority calls, conference calls, and a search mechanism which can find a number required by alternative routes in case of enemy damage."

Parmigian which will replace the "Bruin" system used at present by British forces assigned to Nato, will provide a wide range of facilities, handling voice, facsimile, telex and data communications. The first stage covers a network based on 48 mobile telephone sets in the code, but a communication link with the RAF's Harrier vertical take off strike force.

Plessey and its subcontractors have agreed to market the Parmigian system, or similar systems based on the same technology, in joint bids in export markets. Mr Chorley admitted yesterday that,



General Sir Hugh Beach, Master General of the Ordnance, said yesterday that Parmigian development had cost the Ministry of Defence about £100m at 1980 prices.

US wage settlements fuel inflation fears

From Frank Vogel, US Economics Correspondent, Washington, Oct 27

Overall productivity in the United States in the third quarter of this year rose for the first time since late 1978. But in the manufacturing sector alone it showed another sharp quarterly drop, according to the Bureau of Labour Statistics.

In a separate report the bureau said that the average rate of first-year pay rises in major settlements negotiated by trade unions in the first nine months of this year was 9.7 per cent, compared with 7.4 per cent in the same period last year.

Many economists fear that this rising trend of wage settlements will ensure double-digit inflation in the United States in 1981.

Overall productivity rose by a seasonally adjusted 1.4 per cent in the third quarter. The last quarterly rise was 0.3 per cent in the last three months of 1978. Overall private business productivity has declined by 0.5 per cent in the past 12 months.

Productivity in manufacturing fell by 2.7 per cent in the last quarter after a decline of 4.7 per cent in the second quarter. Over the past 12 months productivity in manufacturing has fallen by 2.9 per cent.

The sharpest declines have been seen in the durable goods side of manufacturing where in the last quarter the drop was 3.8 per cent.

Data for wage settlements, covering almost 3 million workers for 1980, do not include estimates of potential wage increases under cost-of-living adjustment clauses. For the first nine months of this year the settlements concluded involved such clauses for 33 per cent of the workers.

First-year negotiated wage adjustments in contracts with such clauses averaged 8.2 per cent, compared with 6.2 per cent in 1979, while the average for contracts without such clauses was 11.9 per cent compared with a 1979 level of increase of 9.1 per cent.

The latest trends of unit labour costs in American business are the subject of broad concern. Some Government and Federal Reserve Board officials are convinced that some form of incomes policy is vital to restrain the upward trend of wage settlements and so bring down the one-way cost-price spiral that has lessened productivity gains.

The current system of voluntary wage guidelines may have helped to restrain settlements but today's data suggest that they are not helping sufficiently.

There appears to be growing interest at the Fed and in the White House quarters for a tax incentive programme of income policy under which tax cuts are given as the reward for voluntary wage and price restraint.

Rising American interest rates push up the dollar

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

The rise in dollar interest rates continued to attract international money into the American currency yesterday. The dollar jumped almost 15 pence to close at 1.8797 Deutsche marks, while its index against a basket of currencies closed 0.4 higher at 85.1.

Although sterling started the day strongly against the dollar, rising above \$2.45 at first, it later fell back to finish the day 25 pence lower at \$2.4375. Its trade-weighted index closed unchanged at 78.9 after touching the Friday peak of 79.3 during the morning.

The further rise in dollar interest rates comes after another disappointing set of

money supply figures. These confirmed that the money supply is growing faster than the Federal Reserve Board's targets despite the restrictive policy the Fed has been applying to the system during recent weeks. Most Eurodollar interest rates rose by between a quarter and a half point yesterday.

By contrast there was a slight easing in some United Kingdom interest rates. Easter conditions in the London money markets, helped partly by the assistance given by the authorities to the discount market last Friday, meant the one-week rate in the interbank market dropped from just over 18 to just over 17 per cent. Farid rates eased only temporarily, however, and the overnight rate, easier at first, finished the day at 20 per cent.

IMPORTANT SALE OF SHARES IN AN INSURANCE COMPANY IN SPAIN

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Patricia Tisdall



Morocco in \$1,000m oil from shale plan

Morocco plans to become the first Arab or African country to produce oil from shale and is preparing to risk nearly \$1,000m (about £417m) in the next five years to exploit its deposits, it is reported from Rabat.

Like all developing countries which import oil, Morocco has been hit hard by the rising price of crude. This year's energy import bill is expected to be 5,000m dirhams (about £200m) or almost one third of all imports.

To pay for this, Morocco relies heavily on its phosphate exports. Despite a rise in the price of phosphate rock from \$32 to \$52 per tonne this year, revenue from exports of phosphate and derivatives will not cover the country's energy bill, and the oil from shale project is seen as an economic necessity.

Crude exports down

Oman's crude oil exports in September amounted to 8.5 million barrels, a report published by Petroleum Development (Oman) says. The Sultanate exported 8.1 million barrels in September, according to the *Asian Wall Street Journal*. Exports fell 11.6 per cent to \$HK5.38m from August's \$HK5.17m surplus.

Tokyo steel sales

Japan's steel exports to the United States are expected to drop at least 10 per cent between October and December from the preceding quarter, partly due to a decline in demand, industry sources in Tokyo say. Exports to the United States have been declining since the beginning of this year.

Nissan for Tennessee

A report from Washington says that Nissan Motor Co., Japan's second largest car maker, has decided to locate its planned United States truck plant near Nashville, Tennessee. The Tokyo newspaper *Yomiuri Shimbun* says the Japanese company will make a formal announcement soon.

Hongkong deficit

A sharp drop in exports of Hongkong-made products contributed to a \$HK635m (about £25m) trade deficit in September, according to the *Asian Wall Street Journal*. Exports fell 11.6 per cent to \$HK5.38m from August's \$HK5.17m surplus.

Satellites and ground radar combine for accurate rainfall picture

New frontiers on weather forecasts

A combination of ground-based radar observations and pictures taken from earth-orbiting satellites is expected to form the basis for a new method of predicting the weather, and in particular the rainfall, for a period of a few hours ahead.

Known as Frontiers, the system has been developed by the Meteorological Office and the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment at Malvern, and it is being investigated further under contract by Logica, the London computing and communications consultancy.

Computer-aided weather forecasting techniques, covering periods from one to three days ahead, have advanced significantly in recent years. But a growing

Technology News

demand has emerged for an up-to-the-minute picture of the weather and accurate rainfall forecast for a few hours ahead. Users such as water authorities, for example, need to produce river flow predictions from hydrological models.

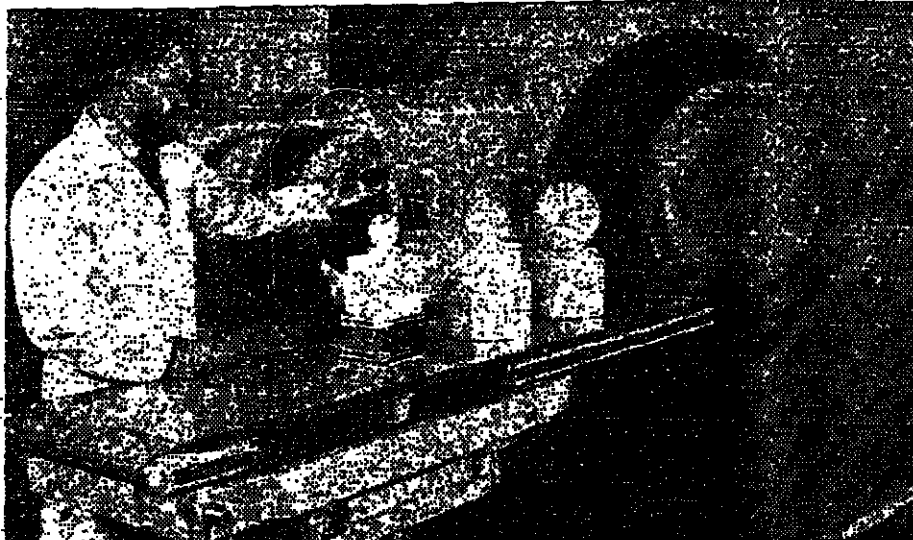
In the Frontiers system, ground-based radar and satellite imagery will be the principal tools used to observe the detailed structure of rainfall systems and associated cloud patterns. By correlating radar data, satellite pictures and conventional weather observations on a colour video display, an instantaneous picture of precipitation over the whole of the United Kingdom, plus a prediction for the next six hours, will be provided.

It will be possible to compare and contrast digital satellite cloud imagery with radar rainfall data over a period of time and to view them as a "fast-action replay".

A short-period forecast, clearly, is a perishable commodity which requires frequent updating and prompt dissemination to the users. Teletext and videodata systems such as Prestel will help to provide easy access to the forecasts; and there will also be direct computer links for major users.

Frontiers is expected to be a significant technological advance, providing exceptionally effective interaction between the human expert and the computer.

Repetitive tasks will be automated, enabling the forecaster to make the most use of his or her judgment. The forecaster will have access to complex data, previously unavailable, and all the information required will be generated at the terminal on an animated display.



A new technique for measuring the very small neutron doses which occur, for example, near intense pulsed photon beams for radiotherapy, has been developed at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington. At Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge,

the method has been tested with a linear accelerator (above) used for the radiation treatment of cancer. The dose is calculated by measuring radioactivity produced at gold foils at the centres of polyethylene spheres of various sizes.

Advances in mobile radio techniques

New techniques which anticipate changes in the operation of mobile radio in the next decade are being developed at Philips Research Laboratories at Redhill, Surrey. The general benefits of the use of mobile radio—reduced response times and the avoidance of wasted journeys through up-to-date information—are such that the market for mobile radio equipment is expanding at from 10 to 15 per cent a year.

Two changes in particular are envisaged by the Philips researchers. First, as more people attempt to use the limited number of radio frequencies the problem of channel congestion will become more acute. This will lead to changes in equipment and operational methods.

Secondly, mobile radio is expected to provide a more versatile service to its users. The use of printers in vehicles, automatic connection to telephone networks, and direct access to computers are examples of the new facilities which are possible.

An attempt to tackle the first of these problems is represented at Redhill in a

project known as trunking, or dynamic channel assignment. This makes more use of the available radio frequencies by sharing a pool of channels among several users.

A user requesting a call is automatically assigned a channel, but only for the duration of the conversation. After the conversation is completed the channel is returned to the pool, ready for use by others.

On occasion all channels will be occupied and further calls will have to wait. The delay should not be more than a few seconds. According to Philips, trunked systems can accommodate up to six times as many users on a given number of channels, and they are inherently more reliable and less susceptible to interference than single-channel systems.

Joint work by Philips teams in Redhill and in Hilversum, the Netherlands, is leading to an advanced trunking system along these lines. Possible features include fleet calling and selective calling; automatic status updating; automatic interconnection with telephone networks; and emergency calling and dynamic reassignment of priorities (an important factor for the public safety services).

Kenneth Owen

Training boards move is opposed

By Patricia Tisdall

Management Correspondent

Proposals to shift the operating costs of industrial training boards from the Exchequer to industry were described yesterday as impractical by the Construction Industry Training Board, one of the largest of the 24 industry training boards.

The CITB's comments on the plan, along with those from about 300 other groups, are due to be considered at a Manpower Services Commission meeting on Thursday.

The CITB says the proposals pay little regard to the practicality of transferring expenditure to industry at a time of severe and continuing recession. It also says that the plan could have a "serious, and even terminal" effect on in-

dustrial training boards if rushed through on the timetable envisaged by the review body.

"Exchequer support of a proportion, if not the whole of operating expenditure is an important part of the Government's recognition of its national obligations in the field of training", the CITB says.

It suggests that, while industry should be responsible for staff costs, there should be a compensatory payment paid at an agreed level by the Government.

Other recommendations are that the scope of the boards should be widened to take in public sector organisations. In particular, the scope of the CITB should be widened to cover the public works departments of local authorities, the works departments of health

authorities, and the activities of architects, quantity surveyors, consulting engineers and similar professions.

To cut down on bureaucracy the CITB recommends that the industry training boards should report directly to the Department of Employment. It says that the present dual responsibility to the Manpower Services Commission and its training services division has led to a costly, time-consuming, and bureaucratic structure with unnecessary layers of administration.

The CITB agrees with the review body conclusions that changes in the basis of funding, and accountability are needed. The way Exchequer funding has been applied has led to extreme uncertainty and made financial planning difficult, it says.

CBI favours Government scheme on engineers

By Our Management Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry, which has been standing back while arguments raged over the constitution of a new chartered body for professional engineers, told Sir Keith Joseph last night that provided employers' interests were adequately represented, it would support the Government's scheme.

The CBI believes that to be effective the new body should be small and tightly knit. It recommends that it should consist of no more than 15 members plus a chairman. At least half its members should have experience as employers. Provided that employers' interests are thus represented, the CBI supports the Government's recommendation that the body should be set up by Royal Charter, rather than by statute and that it should work through existing engineering institutions.

The CBI's views are likely to be similar to those of the Engineering Employers Federation, which has maintained all along that it wants a majority of employers on the new body.

Submissions from the EEF on the proposals will be put to the Department of Industry shortly. They are likely to be much more detailed than those of the CBI, which included the names of possible candidates for the organization, including that for the chairman, whom the federation regards as a crucial figure in getting it started.

Employers generally are extremely anxious that a new professional engineering organization should represent their interests and not, as one industrialist put it, be "overrun by academics".

The CBI, which suggests that the body should be known as the British Engineering Council, sees it operating from a small central board. This could then work through subordinate boards and committees.

In doing his considerable weight to the suggestion that the council should be set up by charter rather than statute, the CBI is expressing views directly contrary to those of the TUC.

A 12-man TUC delegation is due to meet Sir Keith later today to urge that the new body should be a statutory one to provide the necessary leadership. The delegation, led by Mr Ken Gill, a member of the TUC General Council's employment policy and organization committee, will argue that the Government is setting up a "game duck" starved of public funds and dominated by the institutions that have failed engineering in the past, a spokesman said last night.

It will also urge the Secretary of State to reconsider his rejection of what the TUC considers to be the central recommendation of the Finlayson Committee report.

If the CBI's recommendations are accepted many employers doubt whether the Council of Engineering Institutions, with 15 member organizations, can continue to exist alongside the new body.

The EEF in particular is expected to argue that the CBI should agree to "find itself" up and running before the Government grants to the new council in order to prevent confusion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cuts in education 'hinder the economy'

From Captain H. B. Bracken

Sir, In a recent article you drew attention to the increase in unemployment that has taken place in other industrialized countries but no mention was made of the extent to which this increase had been concealed by policies which had either not been attempted here or had been pursued with greater vigour.

In Germany the number of foreigners employed fell by no less than 550,000 between 1973 and 1978 with the returning "guest workers" exacerbating the already severe problems of developing countries like Turkey, measures to promote early retirement and retain the young in education and in training, accounted for a further 640,000 in 1978. The latter was true, though, to a lesser extent in France.

If such factors are taken into account, the "true" rate of unemployment in both these countries was significantly higher than it was in this country in that year. This casts yet further doubt on the statistics that the Government places on inflation as the major cause of unemployment. The real causes are a world-wide recession made worse by mistaken economic policies and the gathering momentum of a new industrial revolution. If we are to meet the challenge posed by the latter, then we must have a highly educated and motivated workforce and this highlights the folly of the cuts in education made by both the Labour and Conservative Governments.

Yours faithfully,

H. B. BRACKEN

The Old House, Broomfield, Sussex, October 25

Careers advice for engineers

From the Secretary of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers

Sir, I regret that your correspondent A. J. Brown (October 21) had such an unfortunate response to his request for careers information. As far as the Institution of Mechanical Engineers is concerned I can assure him that his experience is untypical and we give advice to many thousands of parents and children each year.

He is currently out of touch with our main career publication and indeed it is a simple matter to obtain a copy. The Institution is, after all, a voluntary body and finances its extensive information services from the money provided by its members, a fact which is often overlooked.

The real problem is that there are numerous bodies, many more than those mentioned by Mr Brown, which provide engineering careers information of one kind and another. There is considerable overlap and the average "customer" rarely knows a quarter of the available sources.

What is needed is a national framework which would provide parents and schools with a single point of contact and through which governmental and industrial funding could be channelled. Such an organization, the Engineering Careers Information Coordinating Group, was formed three years ago by two of the professional institutions, the IEE and others, and seeks to bring together all the necessary information, including details of many services available. It too is limited in what it can achieve through lack of funds. But until we adopt national measures to solve national problems, things will continue to be disorganised. Parents like Mr Brown and potential engineers for industry will be lost.

Yours sincerely,

ALEC MCKAY

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers

1 Bridge Walk, Westminster, London SW1R 9JJ

Losses at ICI and the question of North Sea oil

From Mr Geoffrey Hindley

Sir, Will not even the current disaster at ICI cause this Government of Gadharene ideologues to think? The company, one of Europe's largest manufacturers of polyester fibres, and at last operating in an economy self-sufficient in oil, its essential raw material, has declared the first loss in its history and is being obliged to lay off thousands of skilled and productive workers. And why? Chiefly, it is well known, because of "cheap American imports".

The phrase elicits a Pavlovian response from the guts of all well-trained readers of the right-thinking press: ICI, and its corrie of sibilant artisans, must be suffering from the British disease. Yet again, however, the industry is proving us competitive, we are induced to smirk. What are these adolescent cries for protectionist measures, lower interest rates that "beat" once more against our hurricane oceanic mill, surely, which, like a refiner's fire, burnishes, unabated, the corridors of power?

What, then, to ask the obvious once again, is North Sea oil for? Are our industrialists and skilled workers to be allowed to be disadvantaged from our homegrown oil so as to plant a harvest for the future?

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE HINDLEY

South Gate, Duddingston, Oxford, October 22

The dangers of carrying hand luggage on aircraft

From Mr J. E. Humphrey

Sir, On no. 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360, 370, 380, 390, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 450, 460, 470, 480, 490, 500, 510, 520, 530, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, 910, 920, 930, 940, 950, 960, 970, 980, 990, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1360, 1370, 1380, 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, 2050, 2060, 2070, 2080, 2090, 2100, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2140, 2150, 2160, 2170, 2180, 2190, 2200, 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2250, 2260, 2270, 2280, 2290, 2300, 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340, 2350, 2360, 2370, 2380, 2390, 2400, 2410, 2420, 2430, 2440, 2450, 2460, 2470, 2480, 2490, 2500, 2510, 2520, 2530, 2540, 2550, 2560, 2570, 2580, 2590, 2600, 2610, 2620, 2630, 2640, 2650, 2660, 2670, 2680, 2690, 2700, 2710, 2720, 2730, 2740, 2750, 2760, 2770, 2780, 2790, 2800, 2810, 2820, 2830, 2840, 2850, 2860, 2870, 2880, 2890, 2900, 2910, 2920, 2930, 2940, 2950, 2960, 2970, 2980, 2990, 3000, 3010, 3020, 3030, 3040, 3050, 3060, 3070, 3080, 3090, 3100, 3110, 3120, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3170, 3180, 3190, 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3240, 3250, 3260, 3270, 3280, 3290, 3300, 3310, 3320, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, 3370, 3380, 3390, 3400, 3410, 3420, 3430, 3440, 3450, 3460, 3470, 3480, 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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Plessey beats the cutbacks

Companies involved in electronics, defence and telecommunications have been all the more active in this year of recession. Electronics because it is one of the few industrial sectors which is growing. Defence and telecommunications because the bills are paid from the public purse and spending is being rising.

Not surprisingly Plessey, an electronics company heavily involved in both defence and telecommunications and which yesterday announced a £150m contract for its armiger battlefield communications system which could be worth £500m in one, has been a lively performer in the stock market, with an order book the envy many a hard-pressed engineer.

The FT All-Share index has risen by out a third so far this year, and Plessey's performance has been more than twice as good. Others in the sector have also performed exceptionally well. Among the others Racal has outpaced the market by a

operate as a partnership, although Vickers da Costa which has been incorporated for eight years, reckons its public persona aids its financial international side, even when the annual reports of recent years have shown what a difficult and unprofitable business stockbroking can be.

On top of that Capel-Cure, like Wedd Durlacher which went back to a partnership four years ago, was finding it increasingly difficult to replace retiring principals who held a significant stake in the company as younger newcomers were often financially unable to buy out their predecessors.

Interest charges on partnership loans are also deductible, which makes banks a great deal more amenable to providing funds to a new partner. From the worker participation standpoint, brokers are happier to reward those directly involved in producing their revenue rather than an outside group of shareholders, while the partnership approach also helps to bind perhaps footloose staff to the firm.

Finally, remembering the demise of the proposed mergers between Greaveson Grant and Scrimgeour last year and Vickers da Costa and Capel-Cure, Carden in 1974 which both foundered on the difficulties of amalgamating partnerships and limited companies suggests that Capel-Cure with its new-found dynamism, may be looking acquisitively at its rivals once again.

Money markets

Diverging trends in Europe

The Bank of England's reminder to the banks that they must maintain the minimum reserve asset ratio requirement on a daily basis made funds very much more readily available for the discount market yesterday—bank call money placed with the houses qualifying as a reserve asset. For a change the houses were able to pick up all their funds comfortably below the 16 per cent level. The ease in the discount market was still not fully reflected in the interbank market, however, where overnight rates were still fluctuating at anywhere between 16½ and 20 per cent.

While the United Kingdom authorities are wrestling with the technicalities of monetary control, European interest rates are being dictated by more conventional forces, in particular foreign exchange and balance of payments considerations. For the past few weeks the French authorities have been acting as the odd man out in pushing up domestic rates as the main weapon for defending the franc at the same time as running a sizable budget deficit.

The Government has been using all its muscle as the largest borrower in the French money markets to call the tune in interest rates, issuing bonds for example carrying a much higher coupon than is really necessary to lever up interest rates.

Yesterday, however, the French authorities had to backpedal a little, allowing money market rates to ease in an effort to support the Deutschmark, which has come under increasing pressure, falling close to its floor in the European Monetary System.

The continued strength of the dollar is causing the German authorities all sorts of problems—the Bundesbank had to sell \$15,400m yesterday to keep the rate in line with the DM 1.88 level—and the five leading West German economic institutes are now suggesting almost the unthinkable, that the Deutschmark should be devalued to enable interest rates to be cut in order to get the economy moving ahead again.

Not for the first time the equity market appears to be out of touch with the real economy, with share prices moving into new high ground on the very day the worst unemployment figures since the war were announced last week. While the stockmarket also seemed blithely to ignore it, ICI's third quarter loss also crystallized one of the main difficulties of British manufacturing industry that the Government may be able to do something to ameliorate, when it blamed an overvalued currency for its troubles.

The trade figures continue to show that export volume is holding up rather better than expected, but there must be many sectors of industry selling overseas at very little profit simply to hold onto market share. Important as the domestic market is, more than two-fifths of industrial profits came from exports and overseas subsidiaries last year.

Exporters seem to have been pinning much of their faith in keeping volume up on the hope that sterling will fall as interest rates start to come down. Last week's performance of sterling seemed to indicate that even when there are widespread expectations of a fall in interest rates, they are having less and less effect on the currency.

Hugh Stephenson

A simple prediction on public spending

The season of public expenditure cuts is once again upon us. The characteristics of this season are now well enough known not to require much emphasis. Stories begin to appear in newspapers of this or that spending minister fighting some heroic battle to defend his or her programmes.

By October leaked stories about the horrors in store for those least able to protect themselves in society tend to show up in *The Guardian*, or of unacceptable cuts in the defence budget in *The Daily Telegraph*.

Members of Parliament of various persuasions and interests will soon be heard in the House of Commons demanding assurances from the Government that this or that programme will not suffer, whatever the outcome must be.

This year there has been an important variation. Leaking defence

cut documents to the Press Association seems somehow to be institutionalizing the process rather formally. The future that has resulted shows once again how confusing the presentation of public spending figures is for those who wish to use them in public debate.

Since public spending planning is done for the most part in "real" terms we can and do have the paradoxical position that the amount of money spent on defence rises by substantially more than the going rate of inflation and yet in the process of putting to spending cut, though the security of the realm would in no way be diminished.

Since the debate with the Treasury within Whitehall is then conducted in terms of money, or even increases and decreases on this year's outturn for any particular programme, but in terms of cuts or increases in what was planned last year for next year the

were to be doubled overnight, this would not show up directly as an increase in spending on defence, because in real terms the Government is still only providing one soldier to the Rhine Army.

Equally, however, if the Royal Navy was to say that it does not after all want the most expensive possible frigate complete with all the latest gadgetry, because they have been persuaded that something rather cheaper can carry out the required defence function just as well, that would register as a defence spending cut, though the security of the realm would in no way be diminished.

Since the debate with the Treasury within Whitehall is then conducted in terms of money, or even increases and decreases on this year's outturn for any particular programme, but in terms of cuts or increases in what was planned last year for next year the

link with reality becomes even more tenuous.

Overall, it is possible, I believe, to look at the track record of public spending cuts in 1979 and predict from it quite clearly what will happen. It will be in three stages.

First, the Prime Minister and the Treasury will demand huge cuts. The word this time is £2,000m. Secondly, there will not be anything so unseemly as a Cabinet revolt, but the Government will settle for cuts that are less than half that total and dress up the figure a bit by adding in some more sales of assets. Thirdly, the eventual outturn will fall to reflect even these cuts.

I shall cut out this little prediction from the paper and keep it by my side. This time next year, on the confident assumption that this column still exists, it will be compared with what actually has transpired.



John Clark, chairman of Plessey.

and GEC by over a quarter while microcomputers among component distributors has outperformed by 27 per cent. Here are, however, those in the market who are becoming increasingly wary of the electronics sector, who feel that ratings are being out of hand and shares becoming curiously expensive in spite of the better average earnings prospects.

Recent profusion of leaks and rumours of defence spending cuts—and with the earnest looking for savings, the telecommunications programme must also be a victim—have added to this uneasiness.

Far the moratorium on ordering issued in August seems to have had little effect on companies involved in defence, there is the possibility it will be added and now the Treasury is buying out in future spending.

While the major equipment programmes likely to be the last affected—the missile contract, apparently offered to say before the moratorium took effect, going ahead after all—and within the defence commitment, spending on electronics is likely to be one of the fastest growing areas, the sector cannot be totally uncashed.

An important question, however, is what his means for the stock market? National funds with long-term horizons been buying the electronics sector use they foresee real growth there and to increase their exposure. In this case of mind it matters little to them whether they pay 15 or 20 times prospective profits or whether defence cuts will e profits growth from say 20 to 15 per cent a year.

el-Cure Myers

verting to a tnership

Cure Myers' decision to revert to a ership after five years as a limited ighlights the impact the Govern- changes in personal taxation have in one area of the market, albeit a one.

The change, which has been backed groundswell of opinion from Capel- own workforce, is a direct result of duction from 83 to 60 per cent in the te of income tax. There is now little ive for a stockbroking firm which es constant generation of capital to pay corporation tax at 52 per cent the bulk of its partners is liable for ore in personal tax compared with uch higher rates of the past.

eed, too, as a limited company to e annual accounts and allow rivals e in technicolour, the strengths and eses of the business is one reason to



Church Street, Stornoway where four of the Pakistani-owned shops in the town are located.

From the Punjab to the Western Isles

merchant navy. "Someone arriving who happened to be a different colour was not so odd to them. In fact, many admired their pluck. How many of us would have made a living in the Punjab selling from a suitcase? It really was quite courageous."

Mr Sardar Mohammed recalled arriving in Stornoway in 1951 when he was a young man. "I had a friend named Ali who was a trader. What he said about this place made me want to come here. It was difficult at first, because everything was so strange and different. The work was hard. I had to get up at 5 am every day except Sunday so I could catch the first bus into the countryside outside Stornoway", he said.

One lonely brown man with his huge suitcase of goods trudged from door to door when there were often cold and

empty miles separating the doors. It seemed at first too alien and too different from the life he had known in Pakistan where his father had a farm. Slowly, he grew to like the countryside of Lewis and Harris, the strange islands with their bleak emptiness that seemed so often to be like a cold desert. But from the people there was warmth and great courtesy and appreciation that someone should bother to go all the way to their doorstep with goods to sell.

Mr Mohammed worked through the intricate bus timetable so that he could return to Stornoway, his suitcase generally a good deal lighter than when he set out, on the last bus back to town. It was often a 15-hour day.

Six years after coming to Stornoway he flew back to Pakistan to marry, and returned

with his wife and his mother. By then, the small enclave of shops in the town owned by Pakistani traders was known affectionately as Mohammed Alley. The oddness of Far Eastern traders setting up shop in Stornoway quickly became an unremarkable fact of the locals.

Mr Mohammed now has four children, aged between 12 and five years. His daughter, Zerga, aged 10, won first prize at a Gaelic speaking competition. "They are learning Gaelic at school, but mainly speak English with Hebridean accents, and they also know Urdu. It is very cosmopolitan, but we all feel very strongly that our home is now here. I am a British subject, but I feel that I belong to this place," he said.

The business has prospered. All the family are involved and

everyone puts a lot of effort into it. They stay open to give service when most other shops in town are closed. The family now live in a comfortable home away from the shop where at busy times Mr Mohammed employs half a dozen extra local people to help.

"I suppose there are about 60 men, women and children in the Pakistani community, some from the families that settled a long time ago. We are only a small number and there are no problems," he said.

Others thought the easy co-existence between the two communities happened because the Pakistanis kept themselves to themselves. "Really we do not join in very closely, there is a polite distance between us, because of our culture, if that is the right word, which is so different. We are hardly 1 per cent of the population here. We are Muslims and although some of the community are not very religious, they know there is a division."

There have not been any mixed marriages and I do not believe there should be that contact. It does not work in the long term and it is bad for the children. We have our different ways, but that does not prevent us getting on well with the host community", I was told. Children integrate more easily. One Pakistani girl won a place at Aberdeen University from the local secondary school.

The Pakistani traders have spread their small empire to about nine shops in town which sell drapery, footwear, and groceries. Mr Niaz Mohammed, one of the senior members of the community, said that he had opened one of the town's first licensed grocers.

A colleague explained: "The difficulty is that Stornoway is a long way from anywhere. It costs a lot to bring goods in, and buying by mail order may mean paying more and the postage than for the article itself. When someone provides a service and increases the variety available the customers appreciate it. It does not really matter who provides that service but we are happy to try."

Ronald Faux

The collapse of Argentina's tractor industry

Buenos Aires

In 1977, Argentina's tractor industry was the jewel of her economic recovery; a record number of 25,800 tractors were produced in that year and 1,800 were exported.

A World Bank survey found that her tractor factories were producing with an added value of 35 per cent less than the international average. Argentine farmers could buy a tractor with the same amount of wheat as their American counterparts. The four competing factories—subsidiaries of Massey Ferguson, John Deere, Fiat and Deutz—were working to full capacity and Massey Ferguson was completing a new \$6m assembly plant.

But times have changed. Massey Ferguson and Fiat have ceased production while John Deere will do so at the end of the month. All three are speaking that a garbled and partial version of what has been said may leak to the press."

The IBA clearly has a down on poor broadcasting hacks. It intends to announce the franchise results on December 28 purportedly to avoid stock market speculation. Fleet Street's hardest-working scribes can only see this as a concerted attempt to disrupt their Christmas festivities. Seasonal goodwill alone demands a Christmas Eve leak.

ing down at the end of the year. In the first eight months of this year only 2,330 locally built tractors were sold and they cost the farmers twice as many bushels of wheat as they did in 1977.

What went wrong? The same President and the same Minister of the Economy are in office, ostensibly preaching the same philosophy of free market responsibility. But even in Britain governments have preached the same philosophy while applying totally different economic policies.

In 1977 the Argentine government had reduced inflation from 50 per cent a month to per cent a month by controlling money supply and wage increases. Credit was also cheap in that interest rates were lower than price rises, and that, combined with cheap labour, caused a manufacturing boom that made up for the unemployment and obliged industrialists to pay under-the-table bonuses to their employees.

But at the beginning of 1978

Tony Emerson

the government was frightened by a mini-recession which resulted from too tight a squeeze on the money supply in the previous quarter. At the same time the banking lobby took charge of the economic policy in the name of increasing the country's financial resources.

The central bank gave up control of the money supply and printed banknotes to finance a monetary compensation fund that was distributed to those financial institutions which accepted interest-bearing deposits. Since licensed financial institutions also received a 100 per cent state guarantee for their depositors, the result was that the central bank issued money to whoever was willing to pay for it.

The weapon to fight inflation became the exchange rate, and after a short period of "dirty floating", during which the government intervened in the

foreign exchange market, the parity against the dollar was fixed by a crawling per cent devaluation which was well below the rate of inflation.

In theory, competition by imports and the corset effect on exports would make internal price rises conform to the rate of devaluation. As it turned out, the 75 per cent of goods and services unaffected by foreign trade continued to have their prices pushed up by 7 or 8 per cent a month and the whole burden fell on farming and part of industry.

As the gap between inflation and the exchange parity widened, the Argentine peso was sustained by high interest rates which allowed returns of 30 to 40 per cent on investors' dollars and gave the financial sector a spectacular killing.

A policy of high interest rates and an overvalued currency may have been good for bank profits, but it proved a disaster for those parts of the economy which export. In Argentina farm incomes depend on the price which farmers get for the produce exported, and as that diminished in real terms, so did their demand for tractors.

By 1980 sales of new models were running at 15 per cent of the 1977 level. Nor could the

tractor factories compensate the fall in home demand by exporting themselves: the progressive overvaluation of the peso meant that merely adjusting their prices according to internal inflation they were charging twice as many dollars this year as in 1977 and pricing themselves out of the market.

With a break-even point of 350 tractors a month exclusive of financial costs, the situation became impossible. Moreover, the investments undertaken in the boom of 1977 generated their own financial burden without any benefits and in most plants raised the break-even point to 700 tractors a month.

For a while the industry soldiered on. They knew that other productive sectors of the country were being ruined by the economic policy, and they hoped that combined lobbying would change that policy. But with funds flowing into Argentina to take advantage of the interest bonanza, Dr Martinez de Hoz's economic team has felt the strong enough to pursue measures and arguments that do not come from the financial sector.

In the meantime any victim of the policy is dismissed as inefficient—whatever the evidence to the contrary.

Business Diary: Fredy Fisher bows out • Silent TV

ersistent rumour of a at the helm of the al Times were con- last night with the news- edy Fisher, editor since stepping down.

r will remain a of the FT's parent Longman and will be a director of the bank. Warburg work- the international side.

ave been here 23 years I have edited the paper for years", he said last. "How does one feel leaving any job which is greatly enjoyed?"

58, I shall be 39 in d if I was going to have career it was now." news was broken to the staff by memorandum, w editor, and by all s an extremely popular for the job, is Geoffrey 46), the present deputy who takes over on 1.

is a former FT in- dition and New York ndent with a long on the paper broken work for the old In- Reorganization Cor- and British Leyland. e else could an editor- ay, as Fisher did, departure had, rather than what- thing to do with the state of Fleet Street?"

Another tyke is joining the ranks of the Yorkshiremen who dominate the higher echelons of the beleaguered British Steel Corporation. Colin Barker is leaving his roost at IIT Europe, where he has been group general manager (Consumer Products) since last year, to join the BSC as managing director, finance at the beginning of next month.

Barker was previously finance director with IIT's British subsidiary, Standard Telephones and Cables. He has also worked in top financial jobs with Ford Motor and Associated Portland Cement.

Ian MacGregor, the corporation's chairman, has been looking for a new finance man since he took over the industry's most unenviable job in the summer.

The appointment, which does not carry board membership, releases Frank Holloway from the finance role which he has been combining with responsibility for supplies and transport.

Barker joins the so-called "Yorkshire mafia", led by BSC's deputy chairman Bob Scholey. Barker's youth has spent in East, rather than what- thing to do with the state of Fleet Street?"

The Independent Broadcasting Authority grows ever more touchy these days as the languid drama of franchise renewals draws to a close.

The final outcome is likely to be as predictable as much of the channel's output, but IBA's Knightsbridge headquarters is intent on maintaining the secrecy of its deliberations.

Director general Sir Brian Young has been telling his people all about journalists in a short note headed "Talking to the press" which has more than a smack of the headmaster's study about it.

Members of staff should not make appointments to meet journalists, nor answer telephone inquiries from them unless there has been prior consultation with Information Division", the note stipulated.

"Calls" from journalists should be answered with an offer to ring back and an immediate reference to Information Division. It is not sufficient to report a conversation afterwards because statements may have been made, which contradicts the information has been sating in the fast moving context of authority decision."

This exhortation to beware of idle talk also applies when dealing with staff from the ITV companies.



The IBA's Sir Brian Young.

"When talking to company representatives, please remember where the topic has any news value and where we cannot be sure of the discretion of the person to whom we are speaking that a garbled and partial version of what has been said may leak to the press."

The IBA clearly has a down on poor broadcasting hacks. It intends to announce the franchise results on December 28 purportedly to avoid stock market speculation. Fleet Street's hardest-working scribes can only see this as a concerted attempt to disrupt their Christmas festivities. Seasonal goodwill alone demands a Christmas Eve leak.

Strange news from that most conservative of bodies, the Brewers' Society. The guardian of the nation's beer producers has decided that its member companies must come clean about the strength of their brews.

The breweries will be told this week that they must display on bottles and hand pumps the gravity of the beer. The test is "cash-conditioned", which has been rarely applied recently, is to be tightened up. And if the beer makes its way to the drinker through the application of carbon dioxide a sign must tell the poor soul so.

The society has stopped short of other recommendations, such as signs pointing out that at last one best-selling British beer owes its head to an ignominious seaweed compound, but one remains pleasantly surprised at any such voluntary regulation.

Sadly, the strength labelling will end the popular southern custom for dealing with the northern scepticism about the strength of beers brewed south of Peterborough, namely the rapid injection of a few pinths of one of the stronger southern ales into the disbeliever.

Such is the price of progress.

Britain's fishmongers are an improving race, according to Alan Davidson, the diplomat and academic turned gourmet who has penned *North Atlantic Seafood*, launched by Penguin yesterday.

At Fishmongers' Hall some representatives of the trade and of the White Fish Authority got the first actuous bit of cod, and tasted—but Davidson claimed, the British public and their suppliers are already experimenting with fishy things they would not have touched a few years ago. Davidson, formerly with Britain's delegation to Narn and once our man in Laos, revealed rather alarmingly that there have been experimental importations of armoured catfish from the Amazon.

The scaly beasts are slit down the middle and slumped flat on a griddle to cook inside their leathery skins.

There can be no doubting the monarch-to-be's dedication to finding out how British industry ticks. Today, Prince Charles visits the Department of Trade for a 45-minute briefing on company law and 30 minutes with the D-I press office. "Uneasy lies the head..."

David Hewson

Esperanza Limited

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from:
The Secretary, Esperanza Ltd, International House, Nine Square,
26-28 Creechurch Lane, London EC3A 5ED.

	Year to 31.3.80	Year to 31.3.79
Fees and Turnover	£47.7m	£45.2m
Profit before Tax	£3.1m	£7.8m
Earnings per Share	8.2p	14.3p

Extracts from Lord Kissin's Chairman's Statement

- An exceptional loss arising from the settlement of a claim by a subsidiary caused profits to fall below the level achieved last year.
- The Company has built up a major international service business in a relatively short time which has great potential.
- Our International Services comprise: Less Adjusting, Marine Services, Cargo Inspection, Non-Destructive Testing and Inspection, Consulting and Laboratory Services, Freight Forwarding and Transportation.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools: Colleges: Heine, Director, Understanding Germany: 9.35 A village at war in 1188: 9.57 Talkabout: 10.15 Look and Read: 10.38 Geography: A river landscape: 11.00 Watch: A Gypsy: 11.27 It's Your Choice: 11.38 The craft of the Weaver: 12.05 pm Nuclear Power, Countdown at 12.30.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Included in this afternoon's programme is the regular weekly feature Family Matters: 1.45 Baggage (r): 2.00 You and Me (r): 2.30 For Schools: Colleges: Travel and transport in France: 2.38 English: The early site and work of Dylan Thomas: Close down at 3.00.

3.20 Posh & Beosh: 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2): 4.20 Undercover Elephant: Cartoon adventures of an elephant sleuth (r): 4.35 Jackanory: Maurice Deham continues the story of The Good Little Devil by Ann Lawrence: 4.40 Play Away, starring Brian: A lumpy tale of music and mischief: 5.05 John Craven's Newsround: Worldwide news for young people presented in an adult fashion: 5.10 English: Test: Brian Trueman introduces the girls from Loxford High School, Hford, and the boys of

Colchester Royal Grammar School who compete with each other in another battle of screen knowledge: 5.40 News read by Jan Leeming: 5.55 Nationwide: News from the regions: 6.55 Film: Seven Faces of Dr Lao (1964): Tony Randall plays the mysterious Dr Lao, who plays other roles in a light tale of how a travelling circus brings peace to a tickling town: Love with a Vengeance: 7.00 News: 7.15 The Sky Night: Patrick Moore talks to Paul Mordin, one of the astronomers who discovered a phenomenon called a scintar: 12.00 Weather.

1.45 The Sky Night: Patrick Moore talks to Paul Mordin, one of the astronomers who discovered a phenomenon called a scintar: 12.00 Weather.

BBC 2

10.00 am Your Own Business: The fourth in a series of ten programmes designed to help those with a small business. Presented by Robert Finigan, this morning's programme is entitled Seeking Advice: 10.25 Children: Britain's first colliery museum: 3.00 Behind the Scenes: Continuing the background story of the making of the popular series: 3.55 News: 3.58 Living City: Part four of a 15 part series centring on the city of Leicester: Closedown at 3.55: 4.15 Working for Safety: It's appropriate that the Minder, Den-

BBC 3

9.05 am For Schools: Human anatomy and physiology: 9.47 Looking at the past: The treatment of ghosts in traditional and modern literature: 10.26 The Culbin Sands: 10.48 Pre-natal care: 11.05 Maths for seven- to nine-year-olds: 11.22 The dangers of eating too many sweet foods: 11.39 Making a Living: Understanding complex relationships in life: 12.00 Paperclip: Susan Stranks with the help of puppets shows young children how to make a new subject: 12.10 News: 12.15 pm Pinks: The Sullivan: Drama of an Australian family mixed up in World War Two: 1.00 News: 1.20 Thames News: 1.30 Take the High Road: Drama series centred on the Glendarrach Estate in Scotland: 2.00 After News Plus: The subject today of this magazine programme presented by Judith Chalmers is the heart. We learn the cause of heart attack and how to live after surviving one: 2.45 General Hospital: It's a bank

BBC 4

9.00 am News Briefing: 6.10 Farming Today: 6.30 Today: 7.00 News: 7.20 News: 7.30 News: 7.45 News: 8.00 News: 8.15 News: 8.30 News: 8.45 News: 9.00 News: 9.15 News: 9.30 News: 9.45 News: 10.00 News: 10.15 News: 10.30 News: 10.45 News: 11.00 News: 11.15 News: 11.30 News: 11.45 News: 12.00 News: 12.15 News: 12.30 News: 12.45 News: 1.00 News: 1.15 News: 1.30 News: 1.45 News: 2.00 News: 2.15 News: 2.30 News: 2.45 News: 3.00 News: 3.15 News: 3.30 News: 3.45 News: 4.00 News: 4.15 News: 4.30 News: 4.45 News: 5.00 News: 5.15 News: 5.30 News: 5.45 News: 6.00 News: 6.15 News: 6.30 News: 6.45 News: 7.00 News: 7.15 News: 7.30 News: 7.45 News: 8.00 News: 8.15 News: 8.30 News: 8.45 News: 9.00 News: 9.15 News: 9.30 News: 9.45 News: 10.00 News: 10.15 News: 10.30 News: 10.45 News: 11.00 News: 11.15 News: 11.30 News: 11.45 News: 12.00 News: 12.15 News: 12.30 News: 12.45 News: 1.00 News: 1.15 News: 1.30 News: 1.45 News: 2.00 News: 2.15 News: 2.30 News: 2.45 News: 3.00 News: 3.15 News: 3.30 News: 3.45 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